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RUSSIANS ARE COMING!

By LAURIE SCHWAB

The USSR national team is likely to visit Australia for games against Victoria, NSW and South Australia in February-March next year.

PSV Eindhoven, the Polish national team and Borussia Moenchengladbach of West Germany are keen to visit in July.

Responsibility for tours has reverted back to the States and the ASF after having been handled by ASF Marketing Ltd and its director, Peter Sheean, for two years.

Sheean has sold his share in ASF Marketing after running three unsuccessful international tournaments.

ASF Marketing Ltd, the Australian arm of British sports promotion firm West Nally Ltd, retains TV and advertising rights for international matches here.

ASF vice-president Michael Weinstein, the chairman of the Victorian Soccer Federation, said: "We are relieved to have the international games back under our control."

He said he had spoken with Soviet officials about a visit by the USSR team.

Eindhoven, Poland and Moenchengladbach are the first to show interest in visiting Australia in July. Others are likely to join the queue and it then would depend on which would be best value for money.

Israel game live on TV

The Australia-Israel World Cup game will be televised live on SBS-TV from 12.25am on October 9.

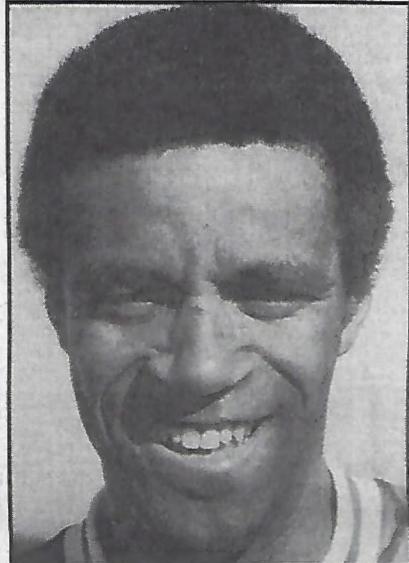
The preceding hour will be taken up by "Pele - the dream of a boy." In it, Pele takes a boy born on the day Brazil won the World Cup in Mexico, back to the scene of the Brazilian triumph, telling him what they did.

Meanwhile, SBS-TV will screen a special on the World Under 16 Championships this Saturday at 6pm. Australia reached the quarter-finals of the series, played recently in China.

The final and two semi-finals of the World Youth Championships held in the USSR will be shown at 6pm on Saturday week.

Tyrone talks

— pages 4 & 5



Tyrone James, former team mate of George Best and Bobby Moore discusses the Socceroos in this issue.

Cumming Dunne's target

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

This weekend's Ricoh Dockerty Cup quarter final games, with likely winners in capitals:

SATURDAY

At Olympic Park No. 2: MORWELL FALCONS v Green Gully at 1.15pm, followed by PRESTON MAKEDOMIA v Frankston Pines.

SUNDAY

At Olympic Park No. 1: MELBOURNE CROATIA v Croydon at 1.15pm, followed by BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS v Sunshine George Cross.

"My old club, eh? Well, there's nothing I'd like better than to knock them off."

Seconds after kicking South Melbourne Hellas out of the 1985 Ricoh Dockerty Cup last weekend, Morwell Falcons coach Jimmy Dunne had started to plan for Saturday's quarter final clash with Green Gully at Olympic Park No. 2 at 1.15pm.

Dunne won the 1980 Bill Fleming Medal as the best player in the Victorian



Former Socceroo Peter Ollerton, who scored one of the goals in Croydon's 2-1 victory over Heidelberg. Opponent John Gabrielson (left) looks on apprehensively. Picture: LES SHORROCK

State League, while starring with Green Gully as a sweeper but Saturday afternoon won't be a time for sentiment for the former Eire international defender.

Dunne, well aware of Tommy Cumming's form, probably will assign a marker to the little Gully ace and my bet is that job will go to Harry Bingham. And what a battle that will be, as Bingham is one of the most underrated players in State League. He's quick, he's brave and his close control is good as is his disposal.

Continued P.2

ASF would back NSL decision

The Australian Soccer Federation probably will ratify any decision the National Soccer League makes about the NSL's 1986 format.

So says ASF vice-president Michael Weinstein. "If the NSL doesn't revert to 14 clubs next year, then it will do so in 1987," he said.

"They cannot survive under the present set-up.

The only alternatives are to revert to a 14-team league, or to have a series of State super leagues, with national playoffs.

South Melbourne Hellas president Jim Diamataris meanwhile, has threatened that his club will withdraw from the NSL unless the format is changed.

He said Hellas would seek membership of the Victorian State League.

The clubs that want a 14-team league are anxious for the NSL to call a meeting as quickly as possible so a firm decision can be made.

They have the numbers to push the change through.

But the 10 clubs who would drop out, will need to give their respective State federations sufficient notice in order to be included in State Leagues for 1986.

Many of the clubs that fear they would be excluded from an elite league are threatening legal action to preserve their NSL status.

* SEE: 'CLUB BOSSSES MAKE ME SICK' — PAGE 7.

Continued P.2



• Paul Wade — helped beat China last week, and now gunning for George Cross.

Juventus aims for the double

From page one

The biggest threat to Falcons is the pace of Paul Lewis and Falcons sweeper George Cross. Both will have to give good cover to his fellow defenders to give the Latrobe Valley side a chance of pulling off another upset.

I'm going to lay it on the line and tip Falcons in a game which could go right down to the wire.

Preston Makedonia should end Frankston Pines' fine run in the Ricoh Dockerty Cup when they clash in the second match at Olympic Park No. 2 on Saturday.

Pines haven't been able to solve their defensive problems all year although Rob Nelson, the former Sunshine star, probably is their best bet as sweeper. Nelson lined up in that position in Pines' 3-2 win over Footscray J.U.S.T. last weekend.

Warren Spink should be back from injury to add his considerable attacking flair to a Makedonia front line that already boasts Sean Lane, an Australian B international, and Gary Cole who has made 38 Socceros appearances, scoring 21 goals in the process.

However, Robbie Dunn and Ian Dobson won't be available. Dunn is in Israel with the Socceros preparing for their vital World Cup qualifying game while Dobson had an operation last week and won't play again this year.

Nevertheless, Makedonia has enough depth to cover their loss and should be no slouch for Pines.

Brunswick Juventus runs into Sunshine-George Cross at Olympic Park No. 1 on Sunday as it attempts to add the Ricoh Dockerty Cup to its national championship win a few weeks ago.

Only Mike Petersen, due to Socceros commitments, will be missing from the Juventus line-up while Don MacLaren returns from suspension and probably will take Mark Lennox's spot in the George Cross side.

With both camps almost at full strength, what a magic spectacle this could be provided we're not treated to the Mexican stand-off which took place earlier this year when these sides clashed at Chapin Field.

I'm hoping that respective coaches, John Margaritis of Juventus and John Gardner of George Cross, are prepared to have a go because both sides have a lot of flair and punch up front.

Steve Richardson, attacked and bashed outside a pub in St Albans last week will be operated on this week for a depressed fracture of a cheekbone.

Tyrone James lined up at right back against Dandenong weekend, then moved into a more central defensive position to mark Dennis Morovic which indicates that James could be the man given the job of shadowing Juventus striker Joe Sweeney.

Juventus will start favorite

and John Dowie, Brian Brown, Peter Lewis and Eddie Campbell should be able to shut out the George Cross strike force. This quartet could be the cornerstone of a Juventus victory.

The first match at Olympic Park No. 1 on Sunday is between Melbourne Croatia and 1985 Victorian State League champion Croydon. That game kicks off at 1.15pm and should mark Croydon's departure from the Ricoh Dockerty Cup.

But not before the underdog stretches Croatia, which will be strengthened by the return of Jeno Antolovic and Davie McIntosh from suspension. Antolovic's return will release Jim Campbell to his customary midfield responsibilities. Campbell played as sweeper in Croatia's 2-0 win over East Brunswick last weekend.

One of the highlights of this game will be the clash between Croydon's Alex Livingstone and Jim Biskic of Croatia. Both players excel at going forward and provide tremendous drive for their respective teams.

Petersen tops, McDowell in fine debut

AUSTRALIA B 2 (Petersen 50th, Wade 72nd) CHINA 0 at Seftier Oval, Monday, Sept. 23. Crowd about 3000. Referee: Richard Lorenz 8.

AUSTRALIA B: Banovic 7 (Penalty, 7, half time), Gray 7 (Corner, 85th), Dunn 8, McDowell 9, McCulloch 7 — Farina 9, Miranda 7 (Lee 70th), Petersen 9, Wade 7 — Arnold 7 (Kalentzis 70th), Patikas 7. Coach: John Margaritis.

Australia B team coach John Margaritis of Brunswick-Juventus employed the same tactics that won him the Australian championship: a four-man midfield that closed down like lightning, and that pushed forward quickly on the flanks.

Unlike the national A team, which uses three central defenders, Margaritis used only two — Robbie Dunn and Gary McDowell. The latter was one of the stars of the match and was making his Socceros debut.

But the best on the ground was midfielder Mike Petersen who, however, continues to remain on the bench of the A team.

Frank Farina pushed forward explosively on the right side, and set up Australia's opening goal. After bursting through the Chinese defence, goalkeeper Xu could only

Man of the match:
MIKE PETERSEN
(Australia B)

parry the ball back to Farina who then crossed to the oncoming Petersen who beat a man and slipped the ball into the net.

For the second goal, Paul Wade was on hand to bury the ball after it had bounced over the head of the hapless Chinese 'keeper.

Coach: John Margaritis.

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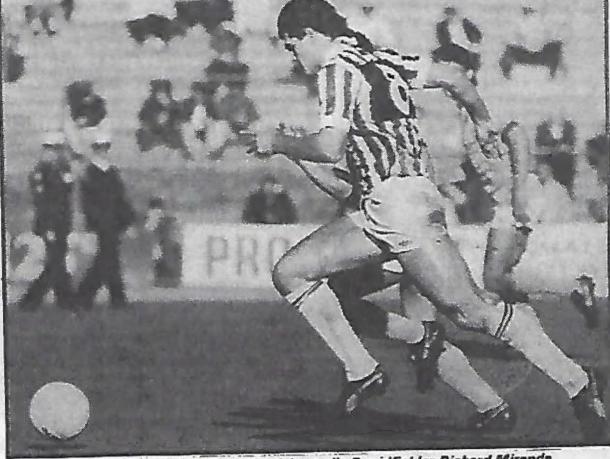
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AUSTRALIA "B" 1 (Arnold 76th) CHINA 1 (Ma Lin 28th) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 1,530, Wednesday, Referee G. Power 8.

AUSTRALIA "B": Banovic 6 (Gibson 46th-7), Gray 5, Dunn 8, McDowell 7, McCulloch 7 — Farina 7 (Lee 71st), Petersen 7, Miranda 6, Wade 6 (Kalentzis 53rd — 6) — Patikas 5. (Lane 70th), Arnold 6. Coach: John Margaritis.

CHINA: Jianping 6, — Dong Ding 6, Hongping 7, Xuguang 8, Jun 7 — Wang Jun 6, Chen Dong 6, Ma Lin 8, — Huihang 6, Hungun 5, Wu Qini 8. Coach: Nian Weisi.



• Brunswick Juventus and Australia B midfielder Richard Miranda.

Relief for Margaritis



Man of the match:
ROBBIE DUNN
(Australia B)

bound but the body of the Chinese custodian was in the way again.

McDowell scored moments later but this time he helped himself by pushing a Chinese player and the goal was disallowed.

The Chinese went into the lead after 28 minutes. Lu Hongxiang created some space on the left before crossing to the far post for Ma Lin to head home, with Australian defenders not to be seen.

Eight minutes later McDowell was pushed in the back by Xuquang and Garu Power gave Australia a penalty.

Mike Petersen hit the crossbar and the chance went begging.

Australia had its first chance after Frank Farina headed for Arnold to race into the penalty area but his shot was well over the bar. Five minutes later Australia should have been one down. Yakkav Banovic misjudged a corner kick and GaoSheng, with the goal wide open, hit the crossbar!

I feel that Gary McDowell's late tackle in the fifth minute, coupled with the actions by the Chinese coach, upset the Chinese team.

Gary McDowell was in the clear a few minutes later but his shot was blocked by the keeper. Arnold took the re-



• Flashback to 1976 as Franz Beckenbauer (left) now coach of West Germany, is hugged by then coach Helmut Schoen. They had plenty of reasons to celebrate last week as Beckenbauer turned 40 while Schoen celebrated his 70th birthday. West Germany also celebrated, reaching the World Cup finals again. See reports on page 6.

Yugoslavs beaten

The vagaries of soccer came to the fore last Saturday when Azzurri and Birkalla qualified for this week's West End Premier Cup final.

Polonia and Beograd entered the semi-finals as short-priced favorites, but crashed to underdogs Azzurri and Birkalla.

Polonia went down 4-2 to Azzurri, while Birkalla scored a late penalty to eliminate Beograd 2-1 in extra time.

Azzurri coach Joe Serafini will be faced with an embarrassment of riches for the final as midfielders Chris Miller and Dragan Ilicic will return after being barred from the semi-final through suspension.

Former Zeta star Angie Giannitto will probably be asked to make way for the more senior players, but the youngsters performed well last Saturday and are not certain to be dropped.

Birkalla boss Rab Jones has no such luxury as is expected, barring injuries, to field an unchanged line-up.

Jones displayed fine judgement in recalling young Robert Tobin and Dave Mahony to the team which struggled to a 1-1 against Beograd in the first leg semi-final.

Craig Leith and Andy Owers made way for Tobin and Mahony, even though Leith scored and Owers was an effective defender in the first game.

• WEST END PREMIER CUP (semi-finals).

By ALLAN CRISP

Jones, a renowned tactician, will formulate special methods to counter Azzurri's hat-trick hero of the semi-final, Pat DeVita.

Lightly-built DeVita capitalised on two tentative pass-backs by Polonia's Garie Dooley to score two of his three goals and used to great advantage to snare his third goal.

Mahony, John Pope and Terry Hayes will need all their penetrative ability to finish on top of Azzurri's competent Peter Herd, Paul Kitchin, Ossie Michelon and Robbie Alberton.

In the home and away Rothmans League season Azzurri conceded six goals less than champion Salisbury United to proudly claim the best defensive record in the league.

Largely responsible for the record is Azzurri's excellent young goalkeeper David Miller, who backs Herd, Kitchin, Ossie Michelon and Alberton with expertise which belies his years.

Birkalla goalkeeper Norm Green also has had a great season and the fate of this top eight series could rest in the safe keeping of the capable custodians.

• WEST END PREMIER CUP (semi-finals). Birkalla 2 (Gommell 96th, Hayes 117th, Beograd 1 (Jovanovic 100th) Azzurri 4 (F. Michelon 23rd, DeVita 26th, 61st and 77th, Polonia 2 (Kierno 69th, Dooley 87th).



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IT'S ON!

MEXICO CITY, Guillermo Canedo, president of the World Cup organizing committee, has confirmed the competition will go ahead as planned next year despite last week's earthquakes.

World Cup organisers here have been at pains to tell the world that none of the stadiums to be used in the tournament were damaged.



Australia and China line-up before their clash at Lang Park last Friday night
Pictures: CARLOS PICASSO.

World Cup hopes are no brighter after China

AUSTRALIA 'A' 3 (Kosmina 9th, Crino 14th, Watson 63rd) **CHINA** 0 at Lang Park, Brisbane, Friday night. Crowd: 4,823. Referee: Bill Monteverde 9.

Kosmina 9th, Crino 14th, Watson 63rd) **CHINA** 0 at Lang Park, Brisbane, Friday. Crowd: 4,823. Referee: Bill Monteverde 9.

AUSTRALIA 'A': Greedy 8 (Oliver 69th) — Davidson 6, Ratcliffe 7, Yankos 7, Jennings 7 — Ozakova 5, Watson 8 (Parino 68th), Crino 7, Murphy 7 — Mitchell 9, Kosmina 8.

CHINA: Xu Jianping 7 — Wang Gongping 6, Gao Sheng 4, Jia Xuguang 5, Lu Huiyang 7 — Jun Wang 5, Li Huagan 8, Duan Ju 6, Chen Dong 5 — Ma Lin 7, Wu Qunli 4 (Wei Kexing 56th). Free kicks: Australia 9, China 10. Corners — Australia 3, China 5. Offside: Australia 1, China 0.

The Socceroos got two hands around the Ampol Cup in beating China in Brisbane — but they are no closer to the World Cup Finals.

Although the 3-0 scoreline was comfortable, and the Socceroos dominated the match, they failed to drive home their advantage.

With much pointing towards the tough Oceania group being decided on goal difference, Australia's hopes of getting into the home-and-away tie with Scotland could rest on how many goals we slam past the weak Taiwanese.

Israel, our opponent in Tel Aviv next Tuesday, already has slammed 11 past Taiwan in two games but Australia's — or more to the point Frank Arok's obsession with defence over the past 12 months, seemingly has left the Socceroos afraid to go forward.

Although the bumpy Lang Park ground was hardly conducive to good football, Australia had China on its knees



Man of the match:

DAVID MITCHELL
(Australia A)

After just 14 minutes when the Socceroos led 2-0, a cricket score should have been in the making.

But the Australians were content to push the ball harmlessly around the mid-third.

Some players appeared to decide the game was over and no more effort was required. A better side than China may have capitalised on that.

Arok rated Taiwan a poorer side than China and predicted the Socceroos would score "six or seven" when they clash with Taiwan next month.

"This was a rehearsal for the Taiwan game and after tonight we are in business. If we are purposeful, I am sure we can put six or seven away," Arok said.

The secret to playing Asian sides is to give them as little room as possible — something Lee Scheinfeld's 1983 young Socceroos learned only too late — and Arok said his side played accordingly.

"We can't match them in speed and silky touches. We had to close them down and capitalise on our strength and aerial dominance," Arok said.

And so that night, when the Socceroos decided to play, they certainly did just that.

The first two goals came from the wing, both by David Mitchell, who emerged as Australia's best player.

The former Adelaide boy is a much more mature and clever player for his stint

overseas and his renewed partnership with John Kosmina will undoubtedly produce many goals in the future, for Sydney-Hakoah if not Australia in the coming games.

Mitchell, along with Kosmina and Joe Watson in the second half, gave 100 percent and proved too good for the weak Chinese defence.

It was a close match with a half-score when Oscar Crino, who again drifted in and out of the match, played a bad back pass to Terry Greedy. The nippy Ma Lin darted onto the loose pass but shot wide — a trait which was to become characteristic of the Chinese game throughout the match.

Australia began with just four defenders, while the Chinese played 3-4-3 when in possession, but funnelled back into a 4-4-2 once they were dispossessed.

Despite the early shock of nearly conceding a goal and giving away five free kicks to one inside the first quarter of an hour, Australia began to look dangerous when it attacked along the flanks, the only area of the pitch which was playable.

It was from a right-side cross by Alan Davidson in the ninth minute that opened the scoring.

Davies, who reportedly wore a brace to protect his injured back, knocked a fine ball into the penalty box where Mitchell rose to head to his striking partner. Unmarked Kosmina pounced on the half chance, turning and steering a rightfoot shot into the far side of the goal.

The second Australian goal came just five minutes later from Joe Watson's free kick on the right. The little airhead in the air headed the ball to Mitchell, who found the line and crossed yet again to find no one in the goalmouth for the final tap-in.

Ma Lin also had several

breakaway opportunities in the dying minutes, as the Australians went through the motions, but lacked the composure of a true international striker.

Although the match was far

from a thriller, it was hard to criticise Arok or his team for reversing last year's defeat in Beijing.

Despite Davidson's obvious

lack of fitness, Arok was

pleased the former South Melbourne defender made it

through the 90 minutes — al-

though there still must be a

question mark about his back holding in a testing match.

The game was very much different to the clash with New Zealand and therefore it was difficult to draw comparisons, but the midfield offered more than in the Auckland match.

"The two strikers did every-

thing I asked and the midfield

showed much more cohesion,"

Arok said.

"We simply overpowered

the Chinese."

The Chinese contingent, obvi-

ously very upset at the poor

showing, left quickly after the match.

"Australia went well but

there was no teamwork in our

side. Our mistakes were very

clear for everyone to see,"

Chinese coach Nian Weisi said

through an interpreter.

Finally, the match was a

winner for Brisbane referee

Bill Monteverde. It was the

first of two internationals he

must control before receiving his FIFA badge, and a faultless performance ensured a

good report on his first big

Big changes for China

As part of an upheaval in the Chinese national side after a riot four months ago during a World Cup qualifying match in Peking, even the coaches were replaced.

New coach Nian Weisi, a former national star in the 1950s and '60s, and his assistants Gao Fengwen and Huo, picked the side from recommendations from provincial coaches two days before leaving China for games in Papua New Guinea.

Only five players have been retained from the old squad: Zhu Bo, Lu Hongxiang, Li Huayun, Jia Xuquan and Chi Minghua.

"Everything is new: the players, the coaches, the style and the aims," Hu said.

"All we want from these games is experience. You can win games anywhere, but experience is the important thing for these boys."

— JAN MARTIN

Israel boss is worried

Israel coach Joseph Mirmovich is concerned about the physical tactics displayed by Australia and New Zealand in their World Cup clash in Auckland.

"The scoreless draw between Australia and New Zealand was a physical battle which didn't let the teams play properly," he said.

"Israel is not a physical team but we have some strong players."

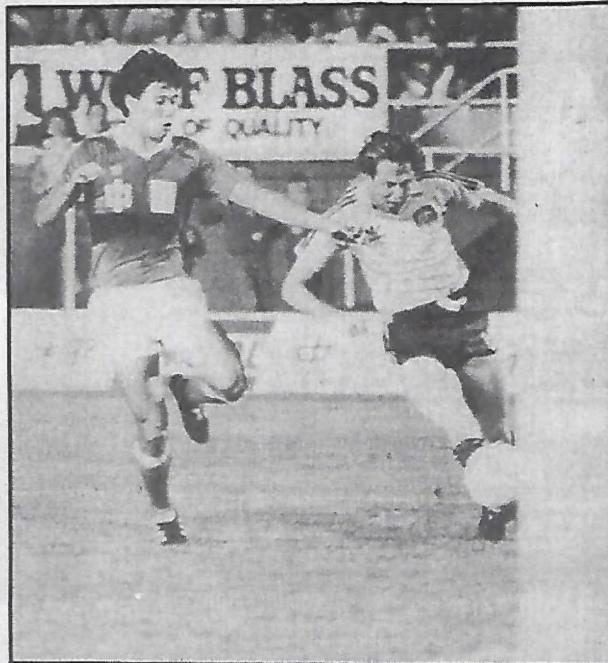
Mirmovich, who obviously was pleased with the Auckland result, was cautious about the coming match against Australia.

"It is always a big battle between Australia and New Zealand but there is not the same feeling against Israel," he said.

"There is room for improvement in both teams and Israel cannot afford to relax just because it will have the home advantage."

"Our home is our castle but we will still need more than local conditions to win."

— TED SIMMONS



The star of Australia's 3-0 victory, striker David Mitchell (right) is about to let fly with a firm drive.



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• Tyrone James's most illustrious teammates, from left: George Best, Alan Mullery, Rodney Marsh, Bobby Moore.

TYRONE JAMES

George Cross star advises: don't change Roos now!

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Tyrone James saw cause for concern in the Socceroos' performance against New Zealand in Auckland but it would be a mistake, he believes, for coach Frank Arok to change the team.

"It is too late to change the side," says the former team-mate of George Best, Bobby Moore, Alan Mullery and Rodney Marsh.

"If you do that, you get other players saying: 'Look, we went so far together, and now they've dropped him.' It's a matter now of building confidence in everyone who's in the team. It's a matter of watching videos of Israel in action, but concentrating on our own game in order to keep the confidence up. It's no good harping on about how good Israel is, or how they play."

Although James lists Jim Patikas (Sydney Croatia) as one of the best players he's seen here — certainly the most direct attacking player — he'd only have Patikas on the bench.

"Strikers work in pairs, so it's not just a matter of putting a new man in, but of breaking up a partnership," he says. "At the moment, Kosmina and Mitchell have that partnership, and the midfielders know what kind of service

to give them. There is so much more involved than simply throwing in a new man."

But James — who's impressive George Cross debut culminated in his inclusion in "Soccer Action's" team of the year — was far from impressed with what he saw of the Socceroos on television from Auckland.

"There was no leader in the field," he says.

"Davidson has a big reputation so perhaps his absence had something to do with it, but the defence didn't seem to know what it was doing. Ratcliffe and Yankos weren't dominant enough — and instead of getting it and playing it, Yankos sent everything long. The left back, Jennings, seems to get lost when he goes forward. The midfield played too many short passes, and the full backs didn't come up in support. Up front Kosmina didn't do much. He looks like a luxury player. If the opposing sweeper stays very deep, then one of the forwards should stand right on him, or at least the forwards should go wide, to make the defenders work. Instead, they played mostly in front of the back four. If you get no joy, then why not send another man up into the midfield? New Zealand had only two strikers, after all."

For all of that however, James remains optimistic on Australia's behalf. What chance do the Socceroos have if they go all the way to the final qualifying tie, against Scotland?

"Well, the Australians would have to know what game they wanted to play, and they'd have to play it rather than just try to stop Scot-



• Tyrone James (right) Australia's No. 1 right back in his first NSL season — shadows Green Gully striker Paul Lewis.

land. Professional players think two moves ahead, so it's very hard just to go out to try to stop them. Also, the game lasts 90 minutes, so the Australians will have to pace themselves, and not try to go for the early goal. Fitness also will play its part, but if they play the right game, I think they could get a draw in Scotland."

Tyrone James, 29, ranks among the most cultured defenders in Australian soccer. He proclaimed upon his arrival from England in May that he wanted to maintain a low profile. That aspiration has gone out the window because he has emerged as a member of the elite.

The man has style. Be it as sweeper, stopper or full back, James is more than merely a hard man to beat. He has flair. He provides leadership. He passes expertly over long distances. He is fast. He is inventive. He sets up goals. He makes plays.

Soccer is but one side of his creative nature. Tyrone James is also a talented pianist. Classical music is his passion — Ludwig von Beethoven specifically.

His scrap book takes us on a journey through a topsy-turvy career from Newham Boys in schools soccer, via West Ham, Fulham and Plymouth to Sunshine-George Cross in Melbourne.

With West Ham, he won the London Youth Cup final, (junior section) against Orient.

He made his senior debut for Fulham in a 0-1 loss to Luton Town in 1976 as a 19-year-old. His was "a brilliant performance that had the crowd applauding his every move." The Fulham side was: Mellor — James, Howe, Moore, Slough — Conway, Mullery, Lloyd — Barrett, Bushby, Mitchell (Dowie).

You recognise, of course, Bobby Moore in defence, Alan Mullery in midfield and Viv Bushby up front. But what about John Dowie, the sub? He's the same John Dowie who now plays for NSL champion Juventus, as sweeper.

George Best and Rodney Marsh joined James later. But James outshone them. In headlines, he was called Tyrone The Tiger. One particularly inventive sub-editor penned the line: "It's power to Tyrone."

He was born in London of a family from Trinidad and Tobago. Hence, Trinidad tried hard to secure him in 1976 for World Cup qualifying matches but failed after Fulham stipulated that James had to be insured for \$420,000 and paid \$250 a week by the Trinidad and Tobago football association.

But he did get to play in Trinidad — as part of an all-black English side selected by coach Terry Venables, now with Barcelona. That side included, among others, Laurie Cunningham, Garth Crooks and Cyrille Regis.

James had a stint with Plymouth Argyle, and arrived in Melbourne nine games into the NSL season. It therefore was a first-class effort to be chosen in "Soccer Action's" team of the year, according to votes gained in the Boral Bricks best player award. He was listed at right back, with 33 votes, ahead of Drago Deakovic (Melbourne Croatia) and Bobby Russell (SM-Hellas).

He rates Russell as a good, hard player who makes sure of making the first tackle count. He also has time for strikers Andrew Zinni (Juventus) and Stuart Stevenson (Heidelberg-Alexander) as well as Charlie Egan (Hellas) although he snuffed out Egan when George Cross met Hellas. "Egan's good in the box. He's got a reputation, so people stand off him, expecting him to do the unorthodox. It'll be interesting to see how he does without Doug Brown (on transfer). Good strikers come in pairs. Now he's got to go solo."

Like most exceptional players, it's hard to get James to praise opponents because invariably, opponents don't do much against him. "My experience helps," he says matter-of-factly. "They have to lift their game when they play against me and if they do, then I'll raise my hands and say well done. I've got nothing to prove. They have."

Still on opponents, we asked his opinion about Mike Petersen, the Juventus midfielder whose name is on the lips of everyone with an appreciation of the finer things in football. "He's got the talent," James says. "He's full of it, but I'd say he's at the crossroads. He seems to wait for other players to do the work, and if



• Jim Patikas (right) of Sydney Croatia and Australia — the most direct player James has seen here.

ENGLAND'S BLACK MAGIC SOCCER ELEVEN

More family care for your money



Presenting the key men in our football future

• Tyrone James (front row, second from right) was chosen by Terry Venables in an English all-black team that visited Trinidad. From left, back row: Walker, Regis, Richardson, Cunningham, Hilaire, Chiedozie, Front: Lee, James, Fisher, White, Crooks.

Gardiner:
Cross
or Gully



George Cross or Green Gully — that's the choice facing John Gardiner (pictured)

George Cross, the club he played for in the late sixties and early seventies, almost reached the finals under Gardiner this year. It finished last in 1984.

But Green Gully also wants him. He played there for two seasons, and was assistant to the then coach, Bobby McLachlan.

George Cross won a recent round-robin competition against Juventus, Heidelberg-Alexander and Foothill J.U.S.T., which raised \$1500 for Ivan Istuk who broke a leg during the last NSL round.

George Cross beat Juventus 3-0, JUST 3-0 and drew 0-0 with Alexander. George Cross and Alexander finished level on points, but George Cross had a superior goal difference.

Istuk, meanwhile, is recovering slowly. He has metal pins in his leg and, of course, is unable to work.

TYRONE'S POWER

Calypso Kid James off to Fulham flier

THE BIG MATCH

By TERRY McNEILL

Luton 1 Fulham 0

TYRONE JAMES, a 10-year-old with a laughing black face had an extraordinary introduction to League football with beaten Fulham yesterday.

He gave a look at the kid from behind on the "Big Match" programme this afternoon and he'll make you overlook a game which, unfortunately, wasn't up to the standard you expect from these teams.

We're still waiting for

a genuine player to add durability and consistency to natural grace and style but Tyrone has given himself every chance of breaking down the barrier.

Normally, he plays in

Bobby Moore's position in

Yesterday, because

Fulham were pushed for

full-backs, he filled in

the gap admirably.

Apart from occasionally

catching his men in

an offside trap with care-

less passes, he was fault-

less. His timing of tackles

was perfect, he won challenges cleanly in the air and, most important, the occasions roughing-up he received left him unmoved.

Alan Mullery, who has seen it all, was as surprised as the rest of us. "I urged the boss to pick him," he said. "I knew he wouldn't let anybody down."

But it was better than that, wasn't it? Nothing worried him, not even when some of the crowd went go at him.

I told him to expect

that. We have no racial discrimination here and to me, if he had heard things he didn't like, not to worry—all it meant was that he was on top of his job."

Tyrone will be watching the ball this afternoon, and West Ham will have more than a passing interest in the programme. They will have an amateur and then, characteristically, fixed him up with Fulham when they had no room for him.

His happy features

were Fulham's only ray of sunshine as they lost valuable ground in the scramble for promotion. Until they find or buy a star, however, such scorelines will be repeated.

Luton, who lost John Seasman early on with a facial injury, looked the likeliest to win the competition, with Peter Anderson ozining danger, and the defence solid and mean.

Up front, they also have problems—only one goal in three matches testifies to the goal that won it in the 27th minute from Brian Chambers, his first goal in a professional match, hoisted the finger of suspicion at Peter Mellor.

LUTON.—Barber G. Ryan (John), L. Thompson, S. Anderson, G. P. Fletcher, G. Fletcher (Paul), G. Ryan (Jim), S. Spurrier, S. Fletcher (R.), S. Chambers, S. C. Edwards (injured), S. S. S. West &

FULHAM.—Mallor G. JAMES, B. M. Mullen, G. Howe, T. Moore, B. Mitchell (withdrawn), S. Campbell, G. Bain, J. Lloyd, S. Bennett, S. John, Dowie.

• The headline tells the story of Tyrone James' debut for Fulham. He was man of the match.



• Sunshine-George Cross, from left, standing: Noel Mitten, Tyrone James, Carl Gilder, Lou Kastner, Steve Richardson, Gerry Bennett, Ossie Latif. Front: John Campelj, Roger Bain, Jeff Faulkner, Mark Lennon, Chris Taylor, Don McLaren.

they don't, then he does it. He's got to assert himself more on the park. He's like Glenn Hodde-great touch and vision but he's got to assert himself and he's got to come up with the work rate."

James believes George Cross can go one step further next year and qualify for the NSL finals. "We just need to score from a higher percentage of the chances we create," he says.

"The same players we have now, can do it for the club. We've got togetherness. Everyone wants to play for the team, they help each other."

He describes the NSL style as "hard, physical, but good." Referees however, should jump in earlier to discourage the rough stuff. And one particular refereeing decision, in Adelaide, still has James and every other George Cross player puzzled.

Stopper Steve Richardson was rolling the ball backwards, slowly, pursued by an opponent. When he got into the penalty area, the referee awarded Adelaide City a free kick. Time-wasting was the verdict, even though Richardson had kept the ball on the move! Adelaide City scored, and the result was a draw. The point lost would have taken George Cross into the finals.

His contract expires in October, 1988. If he stays in Australia he would be a leading candidate for the national team, in any defensive role.

Meanwhile, he gets enjoyment and satisfaction from the game he loves.

"It's the thing I do best," he says. "This is me. I play football. When people say: 'Well done,' it's nice, but I just try as hard as I can within the context of the team. It's a buzz for

me. I'm doing something I always wanted to: playing professional soccer. I was told by coaches when I was young that I'd never do it, but I am doing it. I always want to play better than the last game."

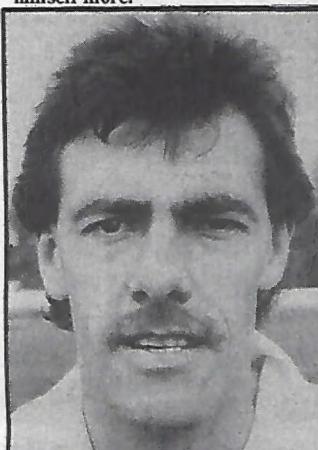
"Some players over here burn themselves out too early. That won't happen to me. They do well early, they enjoy the publicity, the partying, the late nights. They get overweight. They believe what people tell them and they eventually are not as good as they think they are."

James doesn't smoke, he drinks perhaps two glasses of wine on a special occasion. He plays chess, he jogs to supplement his training.

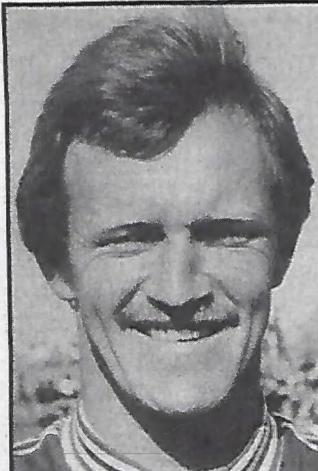
"I like my own world. I'm a quiet person," he says. "I don't socialise late into the night. It's not the way I am. I want memories from football."



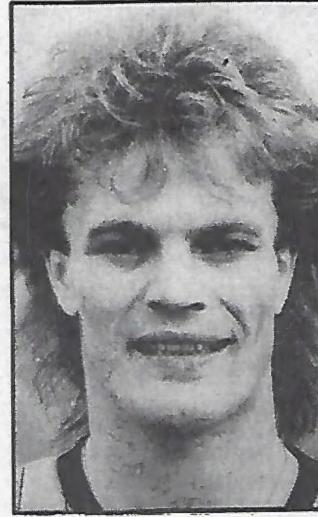
• Mike Petersen — must assert himself more.



• John Dowie — Tyrone James' team-mate at Fulham.



• Bobby Russell — tough full back who makes the first tackle count.



• Stuart Stevenson — has the admiration of Tyrone James.

Bulgaria, Spain, Germany in

**AROUND
THE WORLD**

LONDON, Bulgaria, Spain and West Germany took contrasting routes to Mexico last week when they escaped unscathed from potentially hazardous World Cup assignments.

The Bulgarians, one of the emerging forces of European football, qualified in style with a three-goal first-half blitz in Luxembourg; Spain came from behind to beat Iceland 2-1 in Seville; and West Germany managed a 2-2 draw against Sweden in Stockholm.

In all, 11 nations have now been placed on the 1986 guest list. The others are Mexico, Cup holder Italy, Uruguay, Hungary, Brazil, Argentina, Poland and Canada.

Bulgaria's 29-minute goal blitz in Luxembourg — its fifth successive win after taking just one defeat from its opening two Group Four games — left Group Four champion France in an embarrassing position.

With two games remaining, the French are involved in an undignified scramble for the second qualifying place with East Germany and Yugoslavia, which may need only a draw in Paris on November 16 to send the kings of Europe out of the competition.

Spain always looked to be vulnerable against the fast-improving Icelanders. Anything less than victory would have left Scotland the winner of Group Seven and given Wales an unexpected reprieve with a home-and-away play-off against either Australia, New Zealand, Israel or Taiwan.

British hopes rose when Tjorboersson put Iceland ahead in the 35th minute, but Spain finally ended Wales' slender chances through Hipolito Rincon and Rafael Gordillo in the 44th and 51st minutes.

West Germany, world champion in 1954 and 1974, however, lost a qualifying tie in the competition and that record was never under threat after Rudi Voeller and Matthias Herget gave the Germans a 2-1 half-time lead against Sweden.

But the Scandinavians staged a tremendous second-half revival and Dan Corneliusson and substitute Mats Magnusson, in the last minute, earned them the previous point which may yet secure Sweden the second qualifying place in Group Two ahead of Portugal and Czechoslovakia.

EUROPEAN GROUP TWO

I N P R A G U E
Czechoslovakia beat Portugal 1-0 (half-time 1-0).

Scorer: Vladimir Hruska (20th minute). Attendance: 9,000.

I N S T O C H O M, Sweden and West Germany drew 2-2 (halftime 0-2).

Scorers: Sweden — Dan Corneliusson (63rd min), Mats Magnusson (90th); West Germany — Rudi Voeller (23rd), Matthias Herget (40th). Attendance: 39,157.

W E S T G E R M A N Y 5 1 0 20 6 11
Sweden 3 1 2 11 8 7
Portugal 3 0 3 8 8 6
Czechoslovakia 2 1 3 7 8 5
Netherlands 0 1 5 3 20 1

Remaining matches: October 12 Portugal v Malta, October 16 Czechoslovakia v Sweden, West Germany v Portugal, November 17 West Germany v Czechoslovakia, Malta v Sweden.

Group winner and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP THREE

I N T A M P E R E, Finland beat Turkey 1-0.
Scorer: Jari Rantanen (37th minute).

Group three standings:
England 3 3 0 18 2 9
Finland 3 2 3 7 12 8
Ireland 2 3 1 9 5 7
Nth Ireland 3 1 2 7 5 7
Turkey 0 1 5 1 16 1

Remaining matches: October 16 Romania v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, November 13 England v Northern Ireland, November 14 Turkey v Romania.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP FOUR

I N L U X E M B O R G, Bulgaria beat Luxembourg 3-1.

Scorers: Luxembourg — Paul Langen (65th min); Bulgaria — Peter Petrov (2nd), Kostadin Kostadinov (25th), Georgi Dimitrov (32nd).

Group four standings:
Bulgaria 5 1 1 2 3 11
Yugoslavia 3 2 1 6 4 8
France 3 1 2 7 4 7
East Germany 3 0 3 12 7 6
Luxembourg 0 0 7 2 2 1 0
Bulgaria qualifies for

finals. One place to be decided.

Remaining matches: September 28 Yugoslavia v East Germany, October 30 France v Luxembourg, November 16 France v Yugoslavia, East Germany v Bulgaria.

Group winner and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP SIX

I N M O S C O W, the Soviet Union beat Denmark 1-0 (halftime 0-0).

Scorer: Protassov.

Group six standings:

Denmark 3 0 2 8 4 5
Soviet Union 2 2 2 10 8 6
Ireland 2 2 2 4 4 5
Switzerland 2 2 2 4 4 5
Norway 1 2 2 4 9 4

Remaining matches: October 19 Denmark v Switzerland, October 26 Norway v Denmark, Soviet Union v Ireland, October 30 Soviet Union v Norway, November 13 Switzerland v Norway, Ireland v Denmark.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP SEVEN

I N S E V I L L E, Spain beat Iceland 2-1 (halftime 1-1).

Scorers: Spain — Rincón (44th min), Gordillo (51st); Iceland — Tjorboersson (35th). Attendance: 55,000.

Group seven standings:

Spain 4 0 2 8 8 8
Scotland 3 1 2 8 4 7
Ireland 3 1 2 7 6 7
Iceland 1 0 5 4 10 2

Spain qualifies for finals in Mexico. Scotland plays off against Oceania group winners.

Group four standings:

Bulgaria 5 1 1 2 3 11
Yugoslavia 3 2 1 6 4 8
France 3 1 2 7 4 7
East Germany 3 0 3 12 7 6
Luxembourg 0 0 7 2 2 1 0
Bulgaria qualifies for

finals. One place to be decided.

Remaining matches: October 16 Romania v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, November 13 England v Northern Ireland, November 14 Turkey v Romania.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP EIGHT

I N M A D R I D, Denmark beat Yugoslavia 1-0.

Scorers: Denmark — Tjorboersson (44th min).

Yugoslavia — Peter Petrov (25th), Kostadin Kostadinov (25th), Georgi Dimitrov (32nd).

Group four standings:

Spain 4 0 2 8 8 8
Scotland 3 1 2 8 4 7
Ireland 3 1 2 7 6 7
Iceland 1 0 5 4 10 2

Spain qualifies for finals in Mexico. Scotland plays off against Oceania group winners.

Group four standings:

Bulgaria 5 1 1 2 3 11
Yugoslavia 3 2 1 6 4 8
France 3 1 2 7 4 7
East Germany 3 0 3 12 7 6
Luxembourg 0 0 7 2 2 1 0
Bulgaria qualifies for

finals. One place to be decided.

Remaining matches: October 16 Romania v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, November 13 England v Northern Ireland, November 14 Turkey v Romania.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP NINE

I N A U C H E L D, England beat Portugal 2-1 (halftime 1-0).

Scorers: Portugal — Joaquim (40th); England — Alan Birchenall (44th), Trevor Francis (51st).

Group four standings:

Spain 4 0 2 8 8 8
Scotland 3 1 2 8 4 7
Ireland 3 1 2 7 6 7
Iceland 1 0 5 4 10 2

Spain qualifies for finals in Mexico. Scotland plays off against Oceania group winners.

Group four standings:

Bulgaria 5 1 1 2 3 11
Yugoslavia 3 2 1 6 4 8
France 3 1 2 7 4 7
East Germany 3 0 3 12 7 6
Luxembourg 0 0 7 2 2 1 0
Bulgaria qualifies for

finals. One place to be decided.

Remaining matches: October 16 Romania v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, November 13 England v Northern Ireland, November 14 Turkey v Romania.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP TEN

I N B R U S S E L, Portugal beat Scotland 2-1 (halftime 1-0).

Scorers: Portugal — Joaquim (40th); Scotland — Alan Birchenall (44th), Trevor Francis (51st).

Group four standings:

Spain 4 0 2 8 8 8
Scotland 3 1 2 8 4 7
Ireland 3 1 2 7 6 7
Iceland 1 0 5 4 10 2

Spain qualifies for finals in Mexico. Scotland plays off against Oceania group winners.

Group four standings:

Bulgaria 5 1 1 2 3 11
Yugoslavia 3 2 1 6 4 8
France 3 1 2 7 4 7
East Germany 3 0 3 12 7 6
Luxembourg 0 0 7 2 2 1 0
Bulgaria qualifies for

finals. One place to be decided.

Remaining matches: October 16 Romania v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, November 13 England v Northern Ireland, November 14 Turkey v Romania.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP ELEVEN

I N B R U S S E L, Portugal beat Scotland 2-1 (halftime 1-0).

Scorers: Portugal — Joaquim (40th); Scotland — Alan Birchenall (44th), Trevor Francis (51st).

Group four standings:

Spain 4 0 2 8 8 8
Scotland 3 1 2 8 4 7
Ireland 3 1 2 7 6 7
Iceland 1 0 5 4 10 2

Spain qualifies for finals in Mexico. Scotland plays off against Oceania group winners.

Group four standings:

Bulgaria 5 1 1 2 3 11
Yugoslavia 3 2 1 6 4 8
France 3 1 2 7 4 7
East Germany 3 0 3 12 7 6
Luxembourg 0 0 7 2 2 1 0
Bulgaria qualifies for

finals. One place to be decided.

Remaining matches: October 16 Romania v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, November 13 England v Northern Ireland, November 14 Turkey v Romania.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP TWELVE

I N B R U S S E L, Portugal beat Scotland 2-1 (halftime 1-0).

Scorers: Portugal — Joaquim (40th); Scotland — Alan Birchenall (44th), Trevor Francis (51st).

Group four standings:

Spain 4 0 2 8 8 8
Scotland 3 1 2 8 4 7
Ireland 3 1 2 7 6 7
Iceland 1 0 5 4 10 2

Spain qualifies for finals in Mexico. Scotland plays off against Oceania group winners.

Group four standings:

Bulgaria 5 1 1 2 3 11
Yugoslavia 3 2 1 6 4 8
France 3 1 2 7 4 7
East Germany 3 0 3 12 7 6
Luxembourg 0 0 7 2 2 1 0
Bulgaria qualifies for

finals. One place to be decided.

Remaining matches: October 16 Romania v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, November 13 England v Northern Ireland, November 14 Turkey v Romania.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP THIRTEEN

I N B R U S S E L, Portugal beat Scotland 2-1 (halftime 1-0).

Scorers: Portugal — Joaquim (40th); Scotland — Alan Birchenall (44th), Trevor Francis (51st).

Group four standings:

Spain 4 0 2 8 8 8
Scotland 3 1 2 8 4 7
Ireland 3 1 2 7 6 7
Iceland 1 0 5 4 10 2

Spain qualifies for finals in Mexico. Scotland plays off against Oceania group winners.

Group four standings:

Bulgaria 5 1 1 2 3 11
Yugoslavia 3 2 1 6 4 8
France 3 1 2 7 4 7
East Germany 3 0 3 12 7 6
Luxembourg 0 0 7 2 2 1 0
Bulgaria qualifies for

finals. One place to be decided.

Remaining matches: October 16 Romania v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, November 13 England v Northern Ireland, November 14 Turkey v Romania.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP FOURTEEN

I N B R U S S E L, Portugal beat Scotland 2-1 (halftime 1-0).

Scorers: Portugal — Joaquim (40th); Scotland — Alan Birchenall (44th), Trevor Francis (51st).

Group four standings:

Spain 4 0 2 8 8 8
Scotland 3 1 2 8 4 7
Ireland 3 1 2 7 6 7
Iceland 1 0 5 4 10 2

Spain qualifies for finals in Mexico. Scotland plays off against Oceania group winners.

Group four standings:

Bulgaria 5 1 1 2 3 11
Yugoslavia 3 2 1 6 4 8
France 3 1 2 7 4 7
East Germany 3 0 3 12 7 6
Luxembourg 0 0 7 2 2 1 0
Bulgaria qualifies for

finals. One place to be decided.

Remaining matches: October 16 Romania v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, November 13 England v Northern Ireland, November 14 Turkey v Romania.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP FIFTEEN

I N B R U S S E L, Portugal beat Scotland 2-1 (halftime 1-0).

Scorers: Portugal — Joaquim (40th); Scotland — Alan Birchenall (44th), Trevor Francis (51st).

Group four standings:

Spain 4 0 2 8 8 8
Scotland 3 1 2 8 4 7
Ireland 3 1 2 7 6 7
Iceland 1 0 5 4 10 2

Spain qualifies for finals in Mexico. Scotland plays off against Oceania group winners.

Group four standings:

Bulgaria 5 1 1 2 3 11
Yugoslavia 3 2 1 6 4 8
France 3 1 2 7 4 7
East Germany 3 0 3 12 7 6
Luxembourg 0 0 7 2 2 1 0
Bulgaria qualifies for

finals. One place to be decided.

Remaining matches: October 16 Romania v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, November 13 England v Northern Ireland, November 14 Turkey v Romania.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP SIXTEEN

I N B R U S S E L, Portugal beat Scotland 2-1 (halftime 1-0).

Scorers: Portugal — Joaquim (40th); Scotland — Alan Birchenall (44th), Trevor Francis (51st).

Group four standings:

Spain 4 0 2 8 8 8
Scotland 3 1 2 8 4 7
Ireland 3 1 2 7 6 7
Iceland 1 0 5 4 10 2

Spain qualifies for finals in Mexico. Scotland plays off against Oceania group winners.

Group four standings:

Bulgaria 5 1 1 2 3 11
Yugoslavia 3 2 1 6 4 8
France 3 1 2 7 4 7
East Germany 3 0 3 12 7 6
Luxembourg 0 0 7 2 2 1 0
Bulgaria qualifies for

finals. One place to be decided.

Remaining matches: October 16 Romania v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, November 13 England v Northern Ireland, November 14 Turkey v Romania.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP SEVENTEEN

I N B R U S S E L, Portugal beat Scotland 2-1 (halftime 1-0).

Scorers: Portugal — Joaquim (40th); Scotland — Alan Birchenall (44th), Trevor Francis (51st).

Group four standings:

Spain 4 0 2 8 8 8
Scotland 3 1 2 8 4 7
Ireland 3 1 2 7 6 7
Iceland 1 0 5 4 10 2

Spain qualifies for finals in Mexico. Scotland plays off against Oceania group winners.

Group four standings:

Bulgaria 5 1 1 2 3 11
Yugoslavia 3 2 1 6 4 8
France 3 1 2 7 4 7
East Germany 3 0 3 12 7 6
Luxembourg 0 0 7 2 2 1 0
Bulgaria qualifies for

finals. One place to be decided.

Remaining matches: October 16 Romania v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, November 13 England v Northern Ireland, November 14 Turkey v Romania.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP EIGHTEEN

I N B R U S S E L, Portugal beat Scotland 2-1 (halftime 1-0).

Scorers: Portugal — Joaquim (40th); Scotland — Alan Birchenall (44th), Trevor Francis (51st).

Group four standings:

Spain 4 0 2 8 8 8
Scotland 3 1 2 8 4 7
Ireland 3 1 2 7 6 7
Iceland 1 0 5 4 10 2

Spain qualifies for finals in Mexico. Scotland plays off against Oceania group winners.

Group four standings:

Bulgaria 5 1 1 2 3 11
Yugoslavia 3 2 1 6 4 8
France 3 1 2 7 4 7
East Germany 3 0 3 12 7 6
Luxembourg 0 0 7 2 2 1 0
Bulgaria qualifies for

finals. One place to be decided.

Remaining matches: October 16 Romania v Northern Ireland, England v Turkey, November 13 England v Northern Ireland, November 14 Turkey v Romania.

Group winners and runner-up qualify for finals.

GROUP NINETEEN

I N B R U S S E L, Portugal beat Scotland 2-1 (halftime 1-0).

Scorers: Portugal — Joaquim (40th); Scotland — Alan Birchenall (44th), Trevor Francis (51st).

Group four standings:

Spain 4 0 2 8 8 8
Scotland 3 1 2 8 4 7
Ireland 3 1 2 7 6 7
Iceland 1 0 5 4 10 2

Spain qualifies for finals in Mexico. Scotland plays off against Oceania group winners.

Group four standings:

Tsolakis: smallest man in the NSL

By
CRAIG
MACKENZIE

Mike Petersen, Andrew Zinni, Aki Kotzamichalis, Joe Palatsidis, Mehmet Durakovic . . . and now Peter Tsolakis, who stands all of 5'2" tall — on tiptoe!

Port Melbourne produced young National League stars faster than Rudy Gulyard once produced Australian internationals.

Tsolakis probably is the smallest player in the National League. From the first moment he pulled on a Heidelberg strip he expected to be physically intimidated by opponents, but he met them head-on.

"Two Juventus players told me that they'd break my leg after I beat one of them, but the other would hit me." That sort of talk just makes me want to try even harder and beat players again and again," said Tsolakis, who turns 20 in December.

"There are quite a few big, tough fullbacks in the National League but I'm used to being kicked. Playing in the Victorian Leagues isn't easy but you get used to trying to flatten you."

Tsolakis joined Heidelberg this year in time to make his youth team debut in the third league round. And when it comes to dishing it out, don't let his size fool you.

"I was sent off in my fourth game for Heidelberg. We were playing Hellas in a youth game and I got sick of being kicked by Manny (Anezakis) and the referee didn't do anything about it. So I kicked Manny and got off. After a few more games, they played a few more youth team matches before being told on the Friday that I was in the side travelling to Brisbane to play. Brisbane City on the Sunday."

Tsolakis had a dream debut, scoring in Heidelberg's 3-0 win. A Stuart Stevenson shot was parried by Brisbane City goalie Kim Wishart and Tsolakis ran in and planted the ball into the back of the net.

"He's gone onto the field understanding, nervous but with encouragement from all the Heidelberg players."

"All my team mates told me before the match to go out there and just play my normal game. They were a really big help."

Tsolakis was born in Melbourne and started his soccer career with the Port Melbourne under 11s. He played in a few reserves, reached the sides but never played for Victoria. His first senior game for Port was against Thomastown at Partridge Reserve. Thomastown won 6-0 but Tsolakis, playing as a right-sided midfielder, was pleased with his



• Heidelberg's Peter Tsolakis (left) soars above Makedonia's George Petrov to win this heading duel. Picture: LES SHORROCK.



• Joe Palatsidis

debut and the following season established himself in the seniors.

Steve Kalogeros, now at Hellas, and Stan Hackett, now at Juventus, were the coaches who most influenced him as he rose through the ranks.

"Steve is the guy who got me started. He taught me the basics and what a team we had. We won three or four

championships under him and a couple of JLMC Cups. Stan's a good coach too. We won two championships under him. But the guy who had the greatest influence on me was like Peter and Hans. He was incredible. He brought most of the under 16s into the seniors and he preached skill, skill and more skill.

"I remember playing a game where the guys in the other side were getting a hitting. One of them yelled: 'Come on lads, you can't lose to this lot today. They've got to go to school tomorrow.'

So let's look at Tsolakis's view of former Port team mates who he now squares up to in the National League.

ANDREW ZINNI (Juventus): "He was our (Port's) main scorer. We'd just pump the ball up to Andrew and his speed and finishing ability did the rest."

MIKE PETERSEN (Juventus): "If he's not the best, he's certainly one of the best midfielders in Australia. We'd rip

teams apart with Mike's passing in midfield."

AKI KOTZAMICHALIS (M. Cronulla): "Nothing got past Ali — absolutely nothing. I remember playing with Ali in the under 15s and he was the biggest player in the league even though he still was under 14!"

JOE PALATSIDES (Juventus): "He played with Andrew up front and also scored regularly. He's really good in the air and he gets a lot of penalties, because no-one dives better than Joe."

MEHMET DURAKOVIC (Juventus): "Mem grew up together and like me, he's got a hell of a lot to thank Hans Petersen for."

The highlight of Tsolakis's stint at Port came last year when he was runner-up to Tony Heery in the Third Division's best and fairest voting. That put Tsolakis on the map.

"My phone was running riot after that. I got offers from Caulfield and South Oakleigh among others and also from Heidelberg."

February this year, Tsolakis trained with Heidelberg for the first time. That can be nerve-wracking, especially if senior players jealously protect their spots. But when the top of your head reaches Kotzamichalis's knees, at face value at least, you don't pose much of a threat to established players.

"I already knew Steve Tassos and John Koskopoulos and Nick Deligiannis so that made fitting in a lot easier. It was still hard at the start because I was a bit nervous but after I had played a few games I think other players accepted me."

It may surprise some readers to learn that Tsolakis thinks that senior Third Division soccer is faster than Youth League soccer. Yet he found a much higher skill level in the Youth League.

Tsolakis isn't inhibited by his diminutive frame. Nevertheless, he's going to build himself up with weights throughout the summer and there's no trouble about finding the time to do so.

I'm unemployed which isn't good but I've been looking for a job for a while. I've got my HSC (Higher School Certificate) with maths, English and business studies as my highest marks. I'm on the look-out for a clerical job but they're not that easy to find."

Tsolakis is from Trowbridge-based Chingate, who play in Division Three of the Trowbridge and District League.

The super-fit player has just competed in the Chippenham half marathon and intends to take part in the next London marathon.

"I want to build a really super-fit, strong team" said Bennie from his home, in Westmead Crescent, Trowbridge. "I am out and about talent spotting, and anyone who is over 16 and would like a trial should contact me."

"This is a great challenge which I have been happy to accept. I know that this will not be a super-fit team, but a really happy one as well," he said.

• Bennie Docherty, scoring for Juventus against Hakoah in 1970.

Not another move, Bennie!

SOCER veteran Bennie Docherty has just completed his record breaking 26th plus transfer — and has become a player-manager for the first time.

The 44-year-old metal factory worker has played all over the world.

His talents have been utilised by clubs like Celtic, Notts County, and the Australian high-flying Juventus.

Bennie is a former Bath City and Trowbridge Town player, and these days he is more at home in the West Country on the Wiltshire

circuit. His latest appointment is in charge of Trowbridge-based Chingate, who play in Division Three of the Trowbridge and District League.

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• Paul Shillabeer

Shillabeer: another champion

By
MICHELANGELO
RUCCI

The South Australian west coast fishing town of Port Lincoln has spawned another champion. Towering giant Dean Lukin astounded the world by becoming the first Australian weightlifter to capture Olympic gold and last week Paul Shillabeer brought further fame to Port Lincoln by winning the SA Rothmans Gold Medal.

As a 10-year-old Shillabeer would sneak across the road at Port Lincoln to play soccer with his older brother Peter, and in 1974, his last year in his home town, he joined the fledgling Port United Club.

The next year he moved to Adelaide and his natural soccer talents were nearly lost to Australian football at Killarney College.

"I played Australian Rules there when I was 11 in the under-14 team so I was a bit small," Shillabeer said this week.

"There was a soccer team for my age group so I quit football. I chose soccer only because everyone was so much bigger than me for my age group in football and I enjoyed playing soccer more."

"It all started on a school basis and I've never looked back at football."

Shillabeer, a clerk at the Woodville Spastic Centre, still wants to return to NSL ranks but not until after he settles in married life next year with his fiancee Christine.

Perin is one of two coaches who have had the greatest influence on Shillabeer's career.

The other is former Beograd-Woodville boss Uros Zivkovic who helped Shillabeer pick up his confidence after he had been discarded by Adelaide Juventus.

Shillabeer, a clerk at the Woodville Spastic Centre, still wants to return to NSL ranks but not until after he settles in married life next year with his fiancee Christine.

"I don't want Christine to be a soccer wife early in our marriage," Shillabeer said.

Shillabeer won the Rothmans Medal with 27 votes — one vote ahead of Para Hills captain Laurie Humphreys.

"I really didn't give myself a chance to win it," he said. "Beograd has so many good players, I thought would poll well. Chris Miller, Brian Welsh and Richard Preston are exceptional players and better than State league standard. I expected them to do better than they did and take votes from me."

It may surprise some readers to learn that Tsolakis thinks that senior Third Division soccer is faster than Youth League soccer. Yet he found a much higher skill level in the Youth League.

Tsolakis is from Trowbridge-based Chingate, who play in Division Three of the Trowbridge and District League.

The super-fit player has just competed in the Chippenham half marathon and intends to take part in the next London marathon.

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"This is a great challenge which I have been happy to accept. I know that this will not be a super-fit team, but a really happy one as well," he said.

Arnold Langer — club bosses make me sick!

By CRAIG MAC KENZIE

"I'm tired. It's getting me down, all this talk about changing the National League format. I worry about it night and day. Maybe I'll take a break next year."

That's not the Arnold Langer I once knew, the dynamic, hard-hitting man YSF treated as a legend, once eagerly awaiting the challenge of a coming season and planning shrewdly for another Green Gully assault on the championship.

"I don't even bother going to the delegates' meetings anymore. I'm sick of hearing the same old subject over and over and over again — what format should the National League adopt next year?"

There now is a strong reminiscent tone to Langer's words and his thoughts often return to Green Gully's halcyon days in the Victorian State League in 1981, 82 and 83.

"It's so much easier in the State League. You haven't got even half the worries. The way I feel right now, I'm just about on my last legs. It costs at least \$300,000 a year to stay in the National League which means that every club operates in the red."

But Langer isn't advocating a return to state-based Super Leagues. He's not in the business of saying what the National League should or shouldn't do and club presidents who flock to newspapers with their views of what format should be adopted next year have made things bitter meat.

"We're telling the league negatives, we administrators who won't give a format a chance to settle. I can't make sense of all this talk. When Green Gully entered the National League in 1981 all we ever heard is that Sydney City do nothing for the league because they've only got a couple of supporters. Now those same people who said that are trying to tell me that they want to have Sydney City in their league. What's going on? Can someone please tell me?"

"If I was to approach a coach or a player and ask him to join Green Gully he wouldn't be able to make up his mind because he doesn't know if Green Gully will be in the National League next year or not.

"Before we kick a ball, we listen to some club president slamming the format. A week after the present format was adopted for the 1984 season, some club presidents attacked it. It makes me sick. Why can't people just keep their mouths shut and try and make the best of what they've got?

At the centre of the wrangle is the NSL format lie two clubs Brisbane Lions and Brisbane City. Just as the Oceania region has become the dumping ground for F.I.F.A.'s problem child, Israel, so the Southern Division has become the dumping ground for the two Queensland clubs spurned by almost every other club in the NSL.

"I don't want the Queensland clubs in our league but then what can we do? Just kick them out? That's simply not fair. The NSW clubs are okay in their cushy little league and they don't want the Queensland clubs either. Clubs like South Melbourne Hellas and Brunswick Juventus have short memories. Hellas was lucky not to be kicked out of the National League in 1979 when they finished last and Juventus can thank me and Frank Burin for not being dragged out of the league and forgotten about 10 clubs which have fought hard in the area where they are."

Langer and Burin are YSF board of management when Wilhelmina lost points for allegedly playing an ineligible player, Brian Sinclair, in 1981. As a result of investigation into the incident, Juventus won points which pushed it clear of the relegation zone. Under threat of legal action from Wilhelmina however, the league was revamped and became a 14-team competition instead of 12.

Most NSL club administrators lament the drop in attendances and are using their suggested format of one 14-team league as a way to bring fans back to games. Langer thinks that they're wasting their time.

"There are no big crowds left in soccer. In the next 10 years we'll probably lose another 25 percent of our ethnic support but there's nothing that can be done to reverse that trend, nothing at all. I've kept statistics on attendances at VFL games and overall they're down by 35 percent from last year. Collingwood, one of the best supported teams in Australian Rules football, has suffered an attendance drop of almost 50 percent this year. All we can hope is in soccer is to keep the fans we have but that's going to really hard."

"There are four major problems in Australian soccer. The most important is that it costs too much for the sort of spectacle dished up. I've lost count of the people who have told me that, ordinary fans who once went to games every week and who have been driven away by the \$6 entry fee. The second problem is our lack of comfortable facilities. Third comes our new attitude in competing. We no longer play to win at all cost — now we play not to lose at all cost. And the fourth big problem is that every year, clubs say that the NSL format must be changed which confused everyone involved in Australian soccer and turns people away from the game."

Is it any wonder that the National League no longer is the pinacle of every club's aspirations?



• Arnold Langer (left) and Frank Burin

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Laurie Schwab



• Green Gully's Steve McLelland.

goal No 2, effectively killing off any chance of a Springvale comeback.

Even so, Springvale should have pushed a few more men forward. What good was it to defend a deficit?

The final goal came in the 76th minute. Fitzpatrick fouled Lewis, and Lewis himself converted the spot kick.

Such was Green Gully's superiority that it had 14 scoring attempts to Springvale's five, and also nine corners to three.

Springvale tried man-marking all over the ground, with Vogel on Lucchesi, Luyten on Lewis, Bannon on Williams, Fitzpatrick on Cumming and Bentley and Luca in the middle against Smallman and Vassallo.

Green Gully did all of the playing, Springvale all of the chasing. Nelson however, deserved praise for his brilliant and determined marking of Luca's replacement, Tony Vrzina.

Green Gully lined up without Stuart Cannell (suspended), George Campbell and Fab Barichello (injured). Barichello, voted Green Gully's youth Player of the Year, was to have had his first senior match.

Green Gully spent a lot of time practicing short corners, which became extremely tedious after a while. Springvale had the first good scoring chance when Dave Hogan failed to cut out a nice through ball from David Luca before it could reach Nelson on the run. Nelson however, shot too early, and across goal, when he could have run right into the penalty area.

Nelson threatened again when the score was still 0-0. He took advantage of an unwise back-pass by a Green Gully defender and ran towards Denys at an acute angle. Denys closed him down, got a hand to the ball low, and finally gathered it with help from McLellan, who had been pulled inside a flash to head. Just

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Zahra's in, Borg's out, Culina's Rothmans?

SUNSHINE-GEORGE

CROSS 4 (Gilder 5th, Latif 49th, 52nd, 87th) ST ALBANS DINAMO 2 (Morovic 30th, Brklic 43rd). Second game of a double-header at Green Gully Reserve. Crowd: about 1000. Referee: Jim Fokianos B. Cautions: Taylor (GC).

SUNSHINE-GEORGE CROSS: Kastner 6 — James 6, Scerri 5, Bennett 6, Taylor 5 (Campbell 65th) — Mitten 6, Bain 5, Faulkner 5, Lennon 6 — Gilder 7, Latif 8. Coach: John Gardiner.

ST ALBANS DINAMO: M

Grgic 5 — Ramjak 6 — Pozar

5, S Grgic 5 — Kustura 5

(Rastovic 69th), Bozic 5,

Brklic 7, Culina 6, Dacic 6

— Batimovic 5, Morovic 6. Coach: Tony Vrzina.

Alf Zahra has succeeded

John Bord as club presi-

dent, John Gilson secretary,

and Mike Gambin treasurer.

The committee meets coach

John Gardiner this week to de-

termine whether he will stay on or join Green Gully.

Culina, although hampered

by injury, caught the eye with

a couple of flashy runs, and es-

specially with a world-class

free kick which led to Dima-

mo's first.

Culina finished second in the Victorian Rothmans Medal in 1984 and 1983, but may break the ice on Friday night when the 1985 winner is announced at the Southern Cross Hotel.

With the score at 1-1, St Albans Dinamo was awarded a free kick on the left in the 43rd minute. Culina sent it curving in the most brilliant Brazilian fashion, onto the crossbar. The ball bounced out and was played in again to Zdenko Brklic, who scored at close range to give St Albans a shock 2-1 lead at half time.

Culina, formerly of Blacktown City, Sydney Croatia and Melbourne Croatia, is one of those players who invariably catches the eye because of their ability to do the unexpected and the spectacular.

That quality will have won him many referees' votes, but he'll no doubt be hard pushed for the Rothmans Medal by the likes of Stan Webster (Frankston Pines), Alex Livingston (Croydon), Jim MacLean (Morwell Falcons), Andy Hughes (Box Hill), Joe Palinkas (Fawkner) and Keith Adams (Springvale).

Meanwhile, Ossie Latif notched three goals against St Albans — including one scored with a breathtaking overhead kick — to bring his season's tally to 21. That took him to the top of the NSL, third in the National Cup, four in the Buffalo Gold Cup and three in the Ricoh Dockerty Cup.

Charlie Egan of SM-Hellas scored 22 this year, but with Hellas now out of the Dockerty Cup, Latif is poised to overtake him.

It was Latif's second-half scoring burst that swung the game George Cross's way on Sunday, but Dinamo's ineptness during this period also contributed. Dinamo had looked promising before the break, but in the second half, George Cross forced nine corners to two and had seven attempts at goal, compared with two for Dinamo.

Overall, the statistics were: scoring attempts: 15-9; corners: 10-3.

But it was by no means a good performance by George Cross.

Perhaps the players started taking it easy after Gilder had steered a cross from Mark Lennon in to the net in the 5th minute. Roger Bain headed across goal from a cross by Noel Mitten shortly afterwards, but then Dinamo started to threaten.

Giant Dennis Morovic latched onto a back-pass from a George Cross defender, and was left to a long run at the goal. Lou Kastner was coming out, the goal was at Morovic's mercy, but he missed!

Lennon and Gilder had

nowhere misses for George

Cross, and right back Tyrone James was showing us his skills as he moved forward on

Man of the match:

OSSIE LATIF
(Geo. Cross)



Alf Zahra

right back into the middle to mark Morovic. That deprived us of James' attacking play.

Dinamo centre back Gordon Pozar surged forward in a Herculean run past tackles galore, and left again in his wake, but Morovic just failed to receive Pozar's final pass. To Pozar's detriment, however, his direct opponent, Latif, was to go on and score a hat-trick.

Culina went on a dashing run, skipping stylishly past a tackle but seeing his low shot saved by Kastner, before he set up Dinamo's second goal for Brklic just two minutes before the break.

But any hopes the Croatian fans of St Albans Dinamo had of an upset result were dashed four minutes after the interval when Latif headed home a cross from Mitten.

Three minutes later, after a cross from Lennon from the right, Latif put George Cross ahead with that brilliant overhead shot.

Morovic started limping noticeably shortly after half time, and he was thus much less effective.

Morovic however, threatened the goal again on a bad back-pass from James in the 67th minute. James, to his credit, recovered, chased Morovic and got in a decisive tackle. Ned Batimovic, however, took over and looked like finishing the match with a challenge by Steve Scerri.

George Cross made the final score 4-2 three minutes from the end. Jeff Faulkner took a corner on the left, Gilder headed goalwards and Latif got the final touch.

THE 1985 RICOH DOCKERTY CUP



• George Cross ace Ossie Latif — his goals sunk St Albans Dinamo.

This week's Cup games

• This weekend's Victorian cup matches with likely winners in capitals:

VICTORIAN LEAGUE CUP QUARTER FINALS

Saturday: Keilor Austria v ALTONA CITY; MELBOURNE v Dandenong City; CLIFTON HILL v Yarraville; ROSANNA v Mooroolbark.

HARRY ARMSTRONG CUP QUARTER FINALS

Saturday: Caulfield Park v BOX HILL; Western Suburbs v SPRINGVALE CITY; Doveton v KNOX CITY; FAWKNER v Springvale United.

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE CUP QUARTER FINALS

Saturday: CENTRAL CITY v Pascoe Vale; Williamstown bye; St Kilda v SEAFORD UNITED; NUMURADING UNITED v West Brunswick.

PROVISIONAL RESERVES CUP QUARTER FINALS

Saturday: Mossfiel Rangers v CLARINDA; Mitchell v NORTH SUNSHINE; Monbulk v PASCOE VALE; South Springvale v IVANHOE CITY.

AMATEUR LEAGUE CUP QUARTER FINALS

Sunday: MCCABE v Northern Suburbs; EAST ALTONA v Vermont; EPPING THISTLE v Diggers Rest; CONCORDE v Old Scotch; East Richmond v WAVERLEY UNITED; Yarra Bend v YARRA UNITED; Melbourne University v OAKLEIGH UNITED; Diamond Valley bye.

AMATEUR RESERVES CUP QUARTER FINALS

Sunday: Latrobe University v VERNON; BALWYN CITY v Phillip Institute; Yarra United v DIAMOND VALLEY; EAST ALTONA v Melbourne University; RINGWOOD ROVERS v Maccabi; WAVERLEY UNITED v Epping Thistle; Yarra Bend bye; Eagles United bye.

SCORES

VICTORIAN LEAGUE CUP

Altona City 2 Holland Park 1; Clifton Hill 3 Yellowfin 1; Dandenong City 2 North Geelong 0; Keilor Austria 2 Sunbury 0; Melbourne 2 Waverley City 1; Mooroolbark 3 Broadmeadows 0; Moreland 0 Rosanna 2; Yarraville 2 Essendon Triestina 2 after extra time, Yarraville won 7-6 on penalties.

HARRY ARMSTRONG CUP

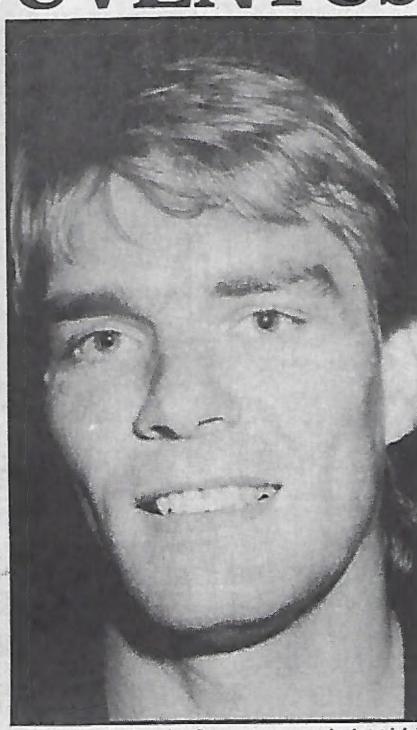
Ardeer 1 Doveton 3; Caulfield City 4 St Albans Dinamo 1; Fawkner 4 Geelong 1; Frankston Pines 1 Springvale City 4; Knox City 4 Hamlyn Rangers 3; Springvale Utd 2 Lalor Utd 2 after extra time, Springvale Utd won 6-5 on penalties; Western Suburbs 4 Dandenong City 1; Box Hill 7 Albion Turn Guci 1.

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE CUP

Central City 0 West Meadows 0 after extra time, Central City 0 West Meadows 0; Hampton City 1 Williamstown 1 after extra time; Williamstown won 4-2 on penalties; Numurading Utd 2 Mulgrave 1 after extra time; Seaford Utd 2 Hawthorn 1 after extra time; St Kilda 3 Geelong Utd 2; West Brunswick 1 Cranbourne 0.

PROVISIONAL RESERVES CUP

Carrum Utd 1 Clarinda 6; Fitzroy City 3 Mitcham Utd 4; Mossfiel Rangers 3 Hawthorn 1; Pascoe Vale 2 Central City 1 Seaford Utd 1 Nth Sunshine 2; South Yarra 3 Ivanhoe City 4; Monbulk 2 Dingley 1.



• Juventus striker Joe Sweeney — scored a hat-trick in his side's convincing 5-1 win over Western Suburbs.

the scoring with a well placed shot from 16 metres after a pass by Joe Palatisides.

In the closing minutes

McGuinness shot past the post following a strong run and Incantulupo rattled the woodwork with a curling shot.



• TOP: Barry Horsfall and ABOVE (left) John Sanchez, both stars of George Cross in the sixties. They were opposing coaches at the weekend.

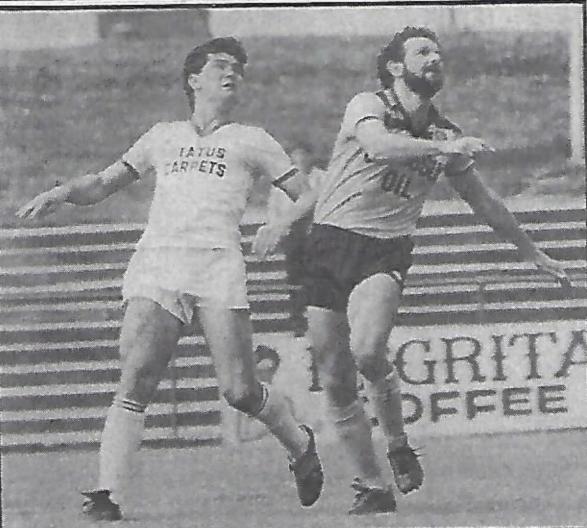
Mooroolbark opened its account in the 25th minute when Dave Klepac got onto a through ball, shrugged off Grant Smart's challenge, rounded Tony Carter, then set up Colin Page whose volley beat Rob McRae.

Mooroolbark went further ahead in the 50th minute when McRae misjudged a bouncing ball, giving Klepac the chance to knock it into the unguarded goal.

Klepac was put to the test three times in as many minutes but was impassable and in the 80th minute the contest was put well out of Broadmeadows' reach.

A Klepac cross from the right was laid back by Mantel into the path of Mooroolbark captain Ray Gurney who made no mistake with his shot and it was 3-0.

THE 1985 RICOH DOCKERTY CUP



• George Christopoulos (right) of Heidelberg and Croydon striker Graham French, preparing for an aerial duel. French scored in Croydon's 2-1 win. Pictures: LES SHOR-ROCK.

Thank goodness Hellas is out!

MORWELL FALCONS 2
(Athersych 72nd, Bruns 83rd)
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 1
(Mitsou 65th). Second game of a double header at Middle Park, Sunday. Crowd: about 300. Referee: Bernie Upjohn 6.

MORWELL FALCONS:
Blasby 6 — Bingham 8, Tutil 8, Bruns 9 — Train 7, O'Callaghan 7, MacLean 8, E Cassar 8 — T. van Baar 5 (McGowan H.T. 8) Stirton 7, Athersych 8. Coach: Jimmy Dunne.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS: Loumets 5 — Russell 7, Blair 7, Anozakis 6, Post-



Craig Mackenzie

"If our players wanted a holiday, they shouldn't have bothered turning up," said SM-Hellas president Jim Diamataris after his team's loss to Morwell Falcons.

"Having some players missing from the side was no excuse for the performance."

"This competition is almost 100 years old. It is one of the oldest and proudest competitions in the country. Hellas used to have big celebrations when we won it in the past."

"I am bitterly disappointed with the way our players treated this match."

— LAURIE SCHWAB

Man of the match:
EMIL BRUNS
(Morwell Falcon)



• Emil Bruns (left) just has scored Falcons' winning goal against Hellas and takes Ian Stirton for a piggyback ride. At right are Harry Bingson (No. 2) and Russell Athersych.

So South Melbourne Hellas bowed out of the Dockerty Cup. Big deal, say some members of the Hellas camp, the same people who slammed the Dockerty Cup and Hellas's presence in it.

This so-called Mickey Mouse Cup is the oldest of its kind in Australia and anyone with any feeling for tradition, rightly pays the Dockerty the respect it deserves. The presence of Victoria's finest club is only fitting in this grand, old competition but what a pity some people at Hellas see fit to criticise a competition whose roots go back to 1909 and what a disgrace it was to watch some Hellas players simply going through the motions.

Frankly, I'm glad Hellas isn't in the Dockerty Cup anymore, just as glad as the knockers in the club but for a different reason. The knockers are pleased that the season is over. I'm pleased that the Dockerty Cup now will be given the respect it deserves by the remaining contestants.

Thankfully for both Hellas and Victorian soccer, a strong element at the club thinks that the Dockerty Cup is worth competing for and this element will prevail — it has to, it runs the club.

A couple of the younger Hellas players know only too well that some of their established senior colleagues showed more than a merely questionable commitment against Morwell Falcons and these youngsters weren't happy about that.

No wonder Hellas fans stayed away from this match in their droves after having the clash criticised during its week-long build-up. And for the handful of loyal fans who turned up there was little else except a simmering anger at their team's display.

Marley blew two good chances to level with shots which went over the bar and the tide slowly was turning as Heidelberg threw caution out the window and pushed forward in droves, leaving itself open to the break.

Croydon created three great chances to put Heidelberg out of its misery, but missed them all.

Livingstone played the ball to French, wide on the right, then took off either side and moved all around for a return pass. French had other ideas, curling over a far post cross which tempted Lagoulis to come off his line. Lagoulis didn't come all the way however, and suddenly Ollerton was left with a free header which must have taken him by surprise for instead of picking his spot and powering the ball home, he headed down in front of goal and Heidelberg cleared.

In the 87th minute, Heidelberg failed to clear a Taylor free kick. The ball fell tantalisingly in front of Kerr who blasted it well over from just six metres.

A great interchange between Livingstone and Ollerton in the 91st minute saw the ball clear but Lagoulis smothered, sending the ball out for a corner and when that was swung across, Kerr headed over as the final whistle blew.

Croydon fans barely had settled back into their seats when French prompted them to rise and cheer once more. In the 35th minute, Bates played a long ball over the top as Heidelberg tried to push out and spring an outside play. The ball fell right in front of French who amazingly was unmarked and he made Heidelberg pay for its defensive ineptitude when he used his body well to fend off Christopoulos before slotting the ball past Lagoulis and into the far corner.

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A minute into the second half, Heidelberg hit back, heralding a period of intense pressure by the National League outfit. A firm shot from John Metaxas, following Croydon's inability to clear a cross from the left by Chris Ketsakidis, made it 2-1 and Heidelberg, with Tsolakis buzzing about, strove hard for the equaliser.

In the 50th minute, McKie played the ball to Steve Tasios on the right of the Croydon area. Tasios turned superbly then drove in a firm shot but straight at Whiteside who handled it with ease.

Three minutes later, White-

side didn't find it so easy to

Falcons had tried to have a go at Hellas. They had lined up with three at the back, four in midfield and three up front, although one of the midfielders, Jim Train, made damn sure that he got back whenever Hellas went forward.

Cassar had a fine game out wide on the left against Bobby Russell, a man who never knows how to give in and who gives every game everything he's got, while Jim MacLean, especially in the second half, stood head and shoulders above every other midfielder.

Tony Heery had been disappointing in the first half and was replaced by Mick McGowan at half time.

"I thought McGowan turned the game around," said Falcons coach Jimmy Dunne after the match.

"But all the lads worked hard and they proved what I've been saying all along. We've got the players to compete at a higher level."

A black and white photograph showing a soccer player in a white jersey with 'R 4' on the back, identified as Alex Livingstone, knocking the ball over the outstretched leg of a player in a yellow jersey, identified as Steve Marley. In the background, another player in a white jersey is visible.

• Croydon winger Alex Livingstone (right) knocks the ball over the outstretched leg of Heidelberg's Steve Marley. Kenny Taylor of Croydon is in the background.

Croydon stakes a strong NSL claim

CROYDON 2 (Ollerton 32nd, French 35th) HEIDELBERG ALLEXANDER 1 (Metaxas 46th). First game of a double header at Middle Park, Sunday. Crowd: about 300. Cautions: Kerr (C), Ketsakidis (H). Referee: Brickell 6 (in), Deak 65th.

CROYDON: Whiteside 7 — Brown 7, Taylor 7, Bates 7, Tansey 7 — Kerr 7, Beech 7, Livingstone 8 — Ollerton 8, French 8, Brogan 7. Coach: Peter Ollerton.

HEIDELBERG ALLEXANDER: Lagoulis 5 — McKie 7, Gabriele 6, Christopoulos 5, Katsakis 7 — Marley 6, Ketsakidis 6, Tasios 6 (Theocharis 85th) — Metaxas 6 (Deligiannis 85th), Selomidis 6, Tsolakis 8. Coach: Brian Garvey.

"Are we good enough for the bloody National League now?"

That's what one Croydon fan yelled to me after this match. Another slammed "Soccer Action" for not giving Croydon much publicity this year which staggered me and will disappoint our contributor John Wallace.

The rhetorical question thrown up by the first fan has

some merit. No doubt this result has given credibility to Croydon's quest for NSL inclusion albeit that it was achieved against a depleted Heidelberg team.

Charlie Yankes and Jeff Oliver were unavailable due to national team commitments, Stuart Stevenson, who is rumored to be the target of West Adelaide Hellas, was out with a knee injury, Joe Angele also

was injured while Scott Patterson, Micki Valentine and Stevie Winn are still out at Heidelberg. But that takes little gloss off Croydon's achievement and in the end, the 1985 Victorian State League champion was a most worthy victor.

Croydon was the better football team throughout the first half and deserved its 2-0 lead at the interval.

In the 12th minute, player-coach Peter Ollerton got on to the end of a long ball bouncing just outside the Heidelberg area but struck his first time attempt well wide and five minutes later that little dynamo Peter Tsolakis drove a low free kick inches past the post.

Croydon was worrying the Heidelberg defence in the air and young goalkeeper Nick Lagoulis wasn't attacking high balls confidently. In the 20th minute, Alex Livingstone crossed but Dave Brogan's header was wide and within a minute, Graham French almost scored.

Brogan won the ball just outside the Heidelberg area and slipped it forward to French whose shot was blocked by Ian McKEE.

Steve Marley, playing in midfield, muscled wide on a few minutes later. George Christopoulos had moved up from his sweeper's spot and was offside by a mile. Play was waved on but Billy Whiteside did well to get to the ball before Christopoulos could pounce it.

Alan Kerr was unlucky not to score in the 29th minute as Croydon's aerial threat escalated. A long free kick by Kenny Taylor was headed on by Ollerton and a looping Kerr header at the far post sent the ball sailing just over the bar.

Three minutes later Ollerton scored a gem of a goal. Gary Bates was fouled just outside the Heidelberg area when going for a header. It looked as though Jim Tansey was preparing to drive the free kick but Ollerton suddenly strode up and curled it into the near corner.

Croydon fans barely had settled back into their seats when French prompted them to rise and cheer once more. In the 35th minute, Bates played a long ball over the top as Heidelberg tried to push out and spring an outside play. The ball fell right in front of French who amazingly was unmarked and he made Heidelberg pay for its defensive ineptitude when he used his body well to fend off Christopoulos before slotting the ball past Lagoulis and into the far corner.

A minute into the second half, Heidelberg hit back, heralding a period of intense pressure by the National League outfit. A firm shot from John Metaxas, following Croydon's inability to clear a cross from the left by Chris Ketsakidis, made it 2-1 and Heidelberg, with Tsolakis buzzing about, strove hard for the equaliser.

In the 50th minute, McKie played the ball to Steve Tasios on the right of the Croydon area. Tasios turned superbly then drove in a firm shot but straight at Whiteside who handled it with ease.

Three minutes later, White-



• Croydon striker Dave Brogan, still a classy player, sets off for the Heidelberg goal.

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Grimwade best at Waverley

Terry Grimwade won Waverley City's best and fairest award for the second successive year. The presentation of this and other awards was made last Saturday night at Waverley's social club.

Grimwade showed versatility this season by alternating between midfield and the forward line, displaying great stamina wherever he played.

He was prominent in the Second Division this season, and could poll strongly in the league best and fairest award.

The runner-up for the first team best and fairest was defender Kyle Patterson.

In the reserve team award Santos Gabriel was victorious, with Mark Perree and Jim Chiosogian sharing second place.

Grimwade also won the Bob Houghton Memorial Award for the most promising junior in senior ranks.

Special awards made by club coaches went to Tommy Gamers in the first team and Casey Yamaoka in the reserves. Nick Fazzolari was named best clubman.

Waverley City ended the season with a 2-1 loss to Melbourne in the Victorian League Cup. Tony Heery scored twice for Melbourne before Norm Wilcock pulled one back for Waverley.

Groenewald by eight

Nunawading City's annual presentation night last Friday saw Jonathan Groenewald a clear winner of the Best and Fairest award with 34 votes, eight clear of leading goalscorer Chris Middlemass.

Defender Steve Moyle was third in the voting.

Jonathan Groenewald joined Nunawading City at the start of the 1984 season as a full-back from Ferntree Gully, but since has been converted successfully into a midfielder, missing just two games in the past two seasons.

Chris Middlemass rejoined Nunawading at the start of the season after stints at Doveton and Doncaster Rovers. This season he scored 6 league and two cup goals and was the only ever-present player during 1985.

Other award winners: Most Improved Player — Scott Nelles; President's Trophy — John Morgan; Players' Trophy — winner Robert Madjer, runner-up Steve Moyle; Reserves Best and Fairest — winner Peter Bailey, runner-up Andy Minton; Youth Team Best and Fairest — Peter Charavallie; Youth Team Most Improved Player — Mark Howells.

Match-fixing and how it's done



Andrew Dettre

Corruption in soccer isn't new; neither is it confined to Hungary. However, during my week stay there, I heard and read so much about the 'goings on' behind the scenes that I started to wonder if the result of any match, at any level, could be taken on face value.

In the past few years there have been some highly public soccer scandals in Hungary, duly reported in this newspaper. It was earlier in 1985 that the big 'Toto Case' was wound up in court with the imprisonment of dozens of former players, club officials, coaches, referees and supporters.

But the bulk of these matches involved amateur and district teams, something like Hungary's 3rd and 4th divisions. Here, a few smart manipulators had been buying and selling matches to fix the Soccer Pools results and pocket enormous dividends.

However, if one is to believe at least some of the wild stories and rumors, Hungary's first division is just as bent as its 4th.

Three recently published books — all in Hungary — by Robert Zolt, Miklos Bocskai and Istvan Gorgenyi, devote several chapters to the sordid details of match fixings.

Naturally, all three books sold out in days; the public in Hungary is more hungry for scandals about soccer than for soccer itself.

Apparently it's fashionable to fix the results of matches according to the needs of the teams.

At the end of the 1984 season Tatabanya was in deep trouble and, with one round to do, could have been relegated.

In the last match it was to meet a rejuvenated Ferencvaros which however, couldn't climb higher than 5th anyway — not enough for a UEFA Cup place.

So Tatabanya caused a 'big upset' and beat Ferencvaros 2-0 in Budapest — triggering off a huge riot by the cheated



Hungarian captain Tibor-Nylasi — an uneasy conscience.

Ferencvaros fans who, on their way back to the city, tore to pieces several Metro carriages.

But Tatabanya was saved — and now, it seems, owe's two points to Ferencvaros, repayable when they're demanded.

According to many well-informed sources, the really corrupt 'stars' of Hungarian soccer are not the players but the officials from the lowly third division.

One club official, who wants to remain anonymous explained one of the favourite tricks.

"Suppose we need two points in our next match to win

the title, avoid relegation or to reach a certain number of points and placing after which a bonus can be paid.

"Our soccer officials approach our club's sponsoring authority, usually a factory or large corporation, for 'special funds'.

"We explain what the money is for — and usually they issue it.

"So our secretary or president makes contact with the other club concerned and drives there to 'negotiate'.

"This usually takes place the day before the match, at times on match day itself. The players knew nothing about it.

Ah, to be in Europe again . . .

"The 200,000 forints (in purchasing power about \$10,000) is, of course, in cash, in a briefcase.

"Now, here comes the sting. If we do win the match, our club official will gloat that he has fixed the result and the money is accounted for.

"If we still lose, he will claim that the opponents wouldn't be part of the dirty deal — and he'll hand the money back.

"But, mind you: when we win — and we do win as often as we lose — the money stays in the pockets of our official, who never even offered it to the opponents.

"No wonder in most clubs there is a huge jostling for high positions, with everybody trying to get an occasional 'money run' for quick profit.

"We have many volunteer club officials in the third division (district league) who have become millionaires from these deals — and never ever offered a penny to the opponents: all they have done was to steal money from their own clubs."

With this type of atmosphere prevailing, it's small wonder that so many Hungarian fans openly claim that the result of the World Cup qualifier against Holland — 1-0 for Holland in Budapest — was 'fixed'.

Hungary had by then qualified for Mexico — and with that win Holland edged ahead of Austria to occupy second place and earn the right for a play-off with Belgium.

Some rumors will have it that several 'key' players of Hungary had been bought by the Dutch while others seem to know that the game had been sold at an official level.

One thing is sure: captain Tibor Nylasi didn't have the easiest of consciences after the game.

He delayed for two days his return to Vienna, where he plays for FK Austria-Wien, hoping that the suspicion and fury of the Viennese fans would fade somewhat.

"So I often contact him for advice," said Brennan.

Brennan played under vest in Adelaide in 1982 and 1983 and when Vesti moved to Perth to coach Floreat Athena, Brennan went with him.

But midway through the 1984 season Vesti left Athens and Brennan was asked to become player/coach for the rest of the year.

Fleming replaces Alston

John Fleming was appointed coach of Wollongong City last week.

Fleming, the most successful coach in the NSW State League for 1985, took Fairy Meadow to a runner-up spot in the League and runner-up in the Grand Final and has fine credentials.

After a 400-plus league career in England he played more than 100 league matches in the NSL, scoring six goals. He was instrumental in getting Fairy Meadow within an inch of an NSL berth at its first attempt and subsequently was one of the hardest working coaches around. He replaces former Australian international Adrian Alston, coach of Wollongong for the past two seasons.

— ALEX VESIC



• Flashback to the Croydon team of 1983 and just three players remain. Back row: Steve Irvine (now with South Oakleigh), Joe Sweeney (Juventus), Ian Dobson (Makedonia), Lou Kastner (George Cross), Mick Edwards, Gus Maden (Prahran Celtic), Paul Wade (Juventus), David Singleton (Georges River). Front row: Mike Rainey (Prahran Celtic), Mark Brown, Jimmy Rooney (Prahran Celtic), Steve Marley (Heidelberg), Gary Hobson (Fawkner), Ian Loughnane (Fawkner), Reno Liu (Fawkner).

Macedonia thanks Brennan

Micky Brennan, the English-born former West Adelaide Hellas defender, has tasted his first success as a coach.

Brennan, 33, has led West Perth Macedonia to its third successive premiership in his first stint as player/coach.

And Brennan said after his side's decisive victory in the State League's final round that he owed most of his success to his old mate Alan Vest, the current NSW Director of Coaching.

"I often contact him for advice," said Brennan.

Brennan played under vest in Adelaide in 1982 and 1983 and when Vesti moved to Perth to coach Floreat Athena, Brennan went with him.

But midway through the 1984 season Vesti left Athens and Brennan was asked to become player/coach for the rest of the year.

That's when this success story began.

Although Brennan admits he is no longer a youth, his playing days are by no means over.

For the last seven rounds of the league Brennan surrendered his place to a promising youngster.

"The chap had a bad game in the cup and I kept him in the side for our next game," Brennan explained.

"If I hadn't done so I could have destroyed his career. This player — Dave Kavanagh — subsequently became a pillar of strength in our defence."

Kavanagh did not miss a game for the rest of the season.

Meanwhile, Spearwood Dalmatian, the team Macedonia pipped for the title, finished the season well by taking out the D'Orsogna Cup, beating Perth Azzuri 3-1.

— PHILIP MICALLEF

Australian Soccer



Aust. vs Israel

Keep an eye out for the exact time for the kick off of this world cup qualifying game direct from Tel Aviv on October 10th.

SBS
Bringing the world back home



Former stars still going strong

The Keilor Old Boys are living proof that you can't keep a good man down.

Despite receding hairlines and expanding waists, these lingers stars of yesteryear have just won the Victorian Industrial and Amateur League Fourth Division championship by six points, scoring 85 goals in the process.

They also have reached the final of the

Black Douglas Cup, to be played on October 6.

In lead-up rounds, they beat Glenroy Dux 5-2, TAA 4-2, Inter-City 4-2 and Lecco Holdings 2-0.

Top scorers in league and Cup matches have been J. Gauci with 35 and G. Munro with 29.

The club, which plays at Keilor Australia's ground, Harricks Reserve, was formed only this year, by Bobby Pocock

(ex-Sunshine City), Guenter Ganglmaier (ex-Keilor Austria) and Jim Munro (ex-Altona Rover).

Other well-known players in the team

are Wilf Laing (ex-Sunshine City), Boris Braint (ex-Green Gully) and Pine Dukic (ex-St. Albans).

The Keilor Old Boys, pictured, are, from left, standing: A. Simeonidis, K. Ferraro, P. Frew, G. Ganglmaier, J. Robinson, B. Braint, P. Dukic, J. Munro, V. Kajovic. Front: W. Laing, J. Gauci, R. Pocock, N. Apas, G. Munro, A. Bulka.

Milenko Rusmir leads Waverley to triumph

Former Footscray J.U.S.T. star Milenko Rusmir, now is sharing his knowledge and experience with the youngsters of Waverley City.

Rusmir's young team has just won the Victorian under 15 Super League, losing only one game all season. The team won the 1984 under 14 Super League as well.

And nine of its players were included in the Eastern competition section which won the regional championship. They are: Carmelo Calafiori, Mario Cutugno, Joe D'Amico, Nicky Paleologos, Ross Parkin, Willie Ross, Neil Fletcher. Absent: Carmelo Calafiori, Craig Paton.

Craig Paton played in the South-Eastern regional team before joining Waverley.

Vincent Salvatore and Mario Cutugno were invited to train with the Victorian State under 15 team and Vincent went on to compete in the national titles in Traralgon. Sava Rusmir was in the Victorian under 13 team last year.

The team, pictured, is, from left, standing: Noel Parkin (manager), Zoran Stojkovic, Willie Ross, Mario Cutugno, Con Tsapatos, Ross Parkin (captain), Vincent Salvatore, Milenko Rusmir (coach). Front: Sava Rusmir (vice-captain), Simon Heiders, Tim Gardiners, Nicky Paleologos, Joe D'Amico, Neil Fletcher. Absent: Carmelo Calafiori, Craig Paton.



100 for Stuart

Ever since he was a toddler, just old enough to kick a ball with his dad on their back lawn at home in England, Stuart Evans (pictured) has enjoyed soccer.

Now living in Australia, he plays at the age of 11, for Doveton Baptist in the Eastern Suburbs Christian Junior Soccer Association.

During the last soccer season Stuart scored his 100th goal in just 51 matches, an average of almost two goals a game. Since playing for Doveton, Stuart has also won nine hat-trick awards from "Soccer Action".

Stuart is delighted. So is his club, but we're not sure how is opponents feel!

Congratulations, Stuart.



The Salesian College team that won the Victorian Secondary Schools championship by beating Regional Catholic College of St. Albans 3-1 on penalties at Middle Park, from left, back row: S. Waldhauer, F. Palleschi, M. Ioakimidis, A. Gatto, M. Alexandropoulos, J. Delosa, F. Salvatore, C. Perna, Coach: C. Egan. Front: R. Palleschi, F. Pansino, V. Salvatore, T. Palleschi, M. Kourelis, F. Mazzagatti, J. D'Amico, G. Morina.



UNDER 16 CONTEST AT RINGWOOD

Fixtures for the under 16 competition being run by Ringwood Wiltelmians at Jubilee Park:

SATURDAY September 28
11 am — Mitcham United v Mooroolbark
1 pm — Waverley City v Springvale United
3 pm — Doncaster Rovers v Ringwood

SUNDAY September 29:
11 am — Burwood United v Springvale United
1 pm — Waverley City v Box Hill
3 pm — Mitcham United v Ringwood City

SATURDAY October 5 — Semi-Finals,
12.30 pm — Runners-up Group I v Winners Group II.

3 pm — Runners-up Group II v Winners Group I.
SUNDAY October 6 — Finals.

12.30 pm — Play-off for third place between the two losing teams of the semi-finals.

3 pm — Main final — between the two winners of the semi-finals.

5 PM — PRESENTATIONS



The Melbourne Croati's under 13s proudly display the name of their sponsor. The boys, who finished second in their Super League, are, from left, rear: Tom Juricic, Stan Marusic, Dean Dak, Damien Muñizura, Darko Trpkovic, John Botica, Mate Bacack (manager). Front: Paul Secri (coach), Jakov Gavran (kneeling), Steve Jerbic, Walter Sare, Ante Lijovic, Romeo Grgic, Joe Bacak (capt), George Tadic, Mark Silic (kneeling).

JL Medibank Private SCOREBOARD

Medibank Private

SCOREBOARD

VICTORIA

DIVISION TWO

Ringwood Old 3 South Melb 3
W. L. F. A. P.

Sth Oakleigh ... 15 8 3 6 3 36 38

Sth Mordialloc ... 16 5 5 4 29 37

Nth Geelong ... 13 7 6 37 19 33

Waverley ... 13 8 6 31 32 33

South Geelong ... 10 6 4 25 25 25

Elliptical ... 10 5 11 35 42 42

Altona City ... 9 6 11 43 42 42

Royal Rich ... 10 6 12 35 47 42

Keller-Austria ... 9 6 11 28 32 21

Dingley C ... 10 6 11 28 32 21

Hannay ... 10 6 11 32 49 21

Ringwood U ... 8 6 12 49 21 42

Bell Park ... 4 11 11 34 45 19

Ceburg ... 10 6 11 34 51 19

DIVISION PROVISIONAL LEAGUE

Dingley 1 Geelong Utd 1

Nth Sunshine & South Yarr 0 1

W. L. F. A. P.

Gesling Old 3 0 29 38

Seaford Inst 2 0 24 35

Berwick ... 11 9 4 55 33 31

Ivanhoe ... 10 10 4 31 20 30

Nth Sunshine ... 8 10 6 48 36 36

Sth Dandenong ... 8 10 6 48 36 36

Geelong Utd ... 10 6 7 33 22 22

Maribyrnong U ... 11 1 12 47 52 23

Uni of Melb ... 6 7 9 34 42 23

Monash Uni ... 6 6 12 47 52 18

Melton ... 5 8 11 23 41 18

South Geelong ... 2 7 15 24 59 11

Altona Utd ... 2 7 15 24 59 11

BUFFALO AMATEUR LEAGUE

DIVISION ONE

Ascot St Marks 1 Epsom 1

Waverley United 1 Epsom 1

North Melbourne 1 Concord 2, 1-3

Phillip Inst 9 R.M.T. 0, 3-2, Brimlins 3 v Collingwood 1

DIVISION THREE

Waverley United 0 Dohanyos 6, 6-5.

RAAF Academy 6 Yarra 6 Bend, 0, East

Altona 7 Oakleigh 6, 0-2.

BUFFALO AMATEUR LEAGUE

DIVISION ONE

W. L. F. A. P.

Waverley United ... 17 3 26 27 37

Ascot St Marks ... 5 6 15 18 36

Eagles United ... 12 5 5 44 29 37

Vermont ... 12 4 5 49 44 28

Bell Park ... 7 5 10 32 34 19

Epling Thistle ... 8 2 12 30 40 18

Maccabi ... 5 6 11 33 55 16

Endeavour Hills ... 5 6 11 33 55 16

Melbourne Uni ... 6 1 15 41 51 13

Old Scotch ... 6 1 15 41 51 13

DIVISION ONE — RESERVES

W. L. F. A. P.

Waverley United ... 16 5 15 28 37

Latrobe City ... 12 3 7 20 27

Waverley United ... 12 3 7 20 27

Ascot St Marks ... 12 3 7 42 31 27

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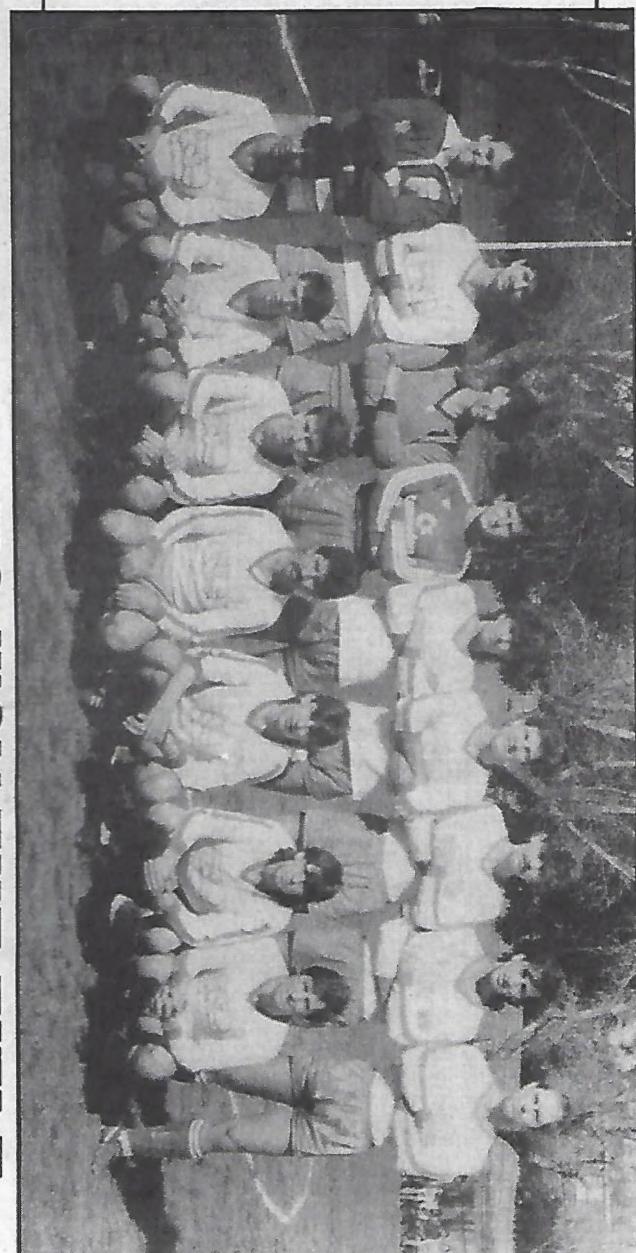
Waverley United ... 12 3 7 42

Clarinda

Fourth Division
here we come!

For Clarinda, 1985 has been a year of major achievement.
As champion of Victoria's Provisional League Division One
the club won the first ever title.

• Back row: S. Seizes,
B. Stratoudakis, M. Lakiotis,
dis. C. Kakouras, P. Constantindion, J. Godessi (captain),
N. Lakiotis, A. Charalambous, P. Apostolopoulos, Front row: M. Charalambous, T. Koutsos, C. Holmes, A. Gatzonis (assistant coach), D. Nitsikas, J. Ougrini, B. Gatzonis (coach), Missing: B. Fergadotis, C. Kozaris, I. Grigas, A. Apostolopoulos.



MEET THE MEN WHO WON THE TITLE

BILL GATZONIS: Coach. Winner of the club's best and fairest award over the last three years. Recruited from Hawthorn.

TONY GATZONIS: Assistant Coach. Recruited from Hawthorn.

MICHAEL IOAKIMIDIS: From the junior team at under 12 level in 1976. From this team five players have risen to represent the club at senior level.

In 1979, Clarinda finished second and was able to climb out of District League Division Four into Division Three. The 1980 season saw the appointment of the first non-playing coach, John Burford, and once more Clarinda finished runner-up and was promoted into Division Two.

In August, 1981, Clarinda offi-

cially opened its current Ground, Grange Reserve, in Osborne Avenue, Clayton South which was developed by the assistance of the City of Oakleigh which spent over \$200,000 on the ground and facilities. Current proposals with the

NICK LAKIOTIS: Defender, from South Oakleigh.

PETER CONSTANTINOU: Defender, recruited from Port Melbourne.

PETER APOSTOLOPOULOS: Defender from the juniors.

JOHN GODESSI: Team captain, recruited from Mordialloc and joint winner of Best Clubman award for 1985.

CLIVE HOLMES: Attacking mid-fielder, from Doveton.

STEVE SEIZES: Defender, from the ju-

nior. He has been missing due to injury for most of the year.

JIMMY OUGRINI: Midfielder with lots of flair. Joined from Western Suburbs.

DINO NITSIKAS: Midfielder, from the juniors. Winner of Best Clubman and Most Improved Player awards for 1985.

ACHILLES CHARALAMBOUS: Courageous mid-fielder, from the Juniors.

CONKOZIARIS: Forward, from the junior.

ARTHUR APOSTOLOPOULOS: Forward, from the juniors and reserves Best and Fairest for 1985.

In 1982 with Takis Mandarakis, the former South Melbourne Hellas star, as coach, Clarinda lost its last game to lose out in the promotion race to Yarraville and Bulleen. However, the disappointment of the season was eased when the

ward, from the juniors. Winner of the Top Goalscorer award.

TAS KOUTSOUKIS: Product of juniors. Joint winner of Most Improved Player for 1985 and has represented Victoria at junior level on many occasions.

IVAN GRIGAS: Forward, from Chelsea.

In 1983 with Takis Mandarakis, the former South Melbourne Hellas star, as coach, Clarinda lost its last game to lose out in the promotion race to Yarraville and Bulleen.

However, the disappointment of the season was eased when the

team captain Simon Topalidis won the Provisional League Best and Fairest award.

The tradition of winning league titles was continued in 1983 by Bill Gatzonis. In September of that year Bill Gatzonis was appointed coach and, with his inspiration, Clarinda won the Provisional League Cup, beating Springvale United 3-2 in the final after extra time. Fresh from this success, Clarinda went on to win the Hellenic Cup in December, beating State League team North-East 2-0 in the final.

With the restructuring of the Victorian Leagues in 1984, Clarinda was promoted into Provisional League Division One and in a tight finish was unfortunate to finish third on Goal difference — one point behind champion Boronia and equal on points with runner-up Bal-

Darat.

Determined that 1985 was to be its championship year, Clarinda finished a clear winner of its division. The most pleasing aspect of the year was the important role played by nine players who had come up from junior ranks.

Clarinda now looks forward to

the 1986 season with relish, playing in the Victorian Leagues for the first time with the knowledge of having good junior talent, strong committee, the support of the local business community and its ever faithful supporters.

Clarinda hopes to crown its success in the Provisional League with a championship in the Fourth Division of the Victorian Leagues.

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SOCCER CENTRE**

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Thursdays 5 a side & 6 a side
Sundays 5 a side & 6 a side

or book a court on Sundays for a weekly kick-a-bout, or a social game amongst friends at a cost of \$2 a person

Some vacancies still available for Youth league on Fridays
We are running grading games for these leagues at the moment.
Match fees for the leagues are \$10 per team and \$1 entry per person
Duration of the games is 45 minutes.

SENIOR REFEREES STILL REQUIRED as we are running leagues 7 nights a week

Ring
NICK OR PAT
ON 729 1999
or 729 0780
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BAYSWATER
RING EARLY, DON'T BE DISAPPOINTED



• Melita Eagles, First Grade Grand Final winners in NSW. Back row: John Davies, Don Allan, Andrew Callinan, Greg McCoy, Wayne Dolton, Billy Griffiths, Ken Wilson, Barry Walker, coach Micky Jones, Peter Hensman. Front Anthony Avellino, Dragan Pupovac, Lenny Vial, Jay O'Rourke, Derek Laing, Ray Garrugia and fan. Picture ALEX VESIC.

Jones bows out on a high note

NSW State League
with ALEX VESIC



Man of the match:
BARRY WALKER
(Melita Eagles)

In the 50th, Lenny Vial beat the Meadow defence then mis-kicked only to see the ball go to the keeper for an unmarked Hensman to shoot. But Hensman decided to place his shot and it went straight into the arms of the fallen Young!

A few moments later Hensman was through again to face Young but shot straight at the keeper.

For Meadow the game was in the balance until the 53rd minute. It was 1-0 down and surging forward. Then came the loss of Phil Mowbray through injury. He was carried off the Park and replaced by Baker.

Giraldi and Fontana hit the woodwork in the ensuing moments but little if no luck went Meadow's way as it fought against all odds.

MELLIER WINS IT

SUTHERLAND 1 (Mellier 72nd) MANLY WARRINGAH 0. Third Grade Grand Final at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 2,350.

SUTHERLAND: Mrcvic — Pisckie, Ashton, Hawker, Ensor — Ward, Tever (Giovenco 53rd), Christodoulou (Weimer 77th) — Leney, Hill, Mellier.

MANLY: Tingle — Reeve, Melville, Butler, Smith — Green, Cimarosti (Gonzales 53rd), England — Annan, Loughran, Gillespie.

André Mellier's goal separated the sides at the end of a very entertaining game dominated by strong defence.

Sutherland, for all its failures in top grade, and in the reserves, yet again goes home with a trophy. Mind you, the light blues have been accustomed to doing that in the past few years.

Sea Eagles riding high

MANLY WARRINGAH 2
(For 80th, 82nd) **MELITA**
EAGLES 0. Second Grade
Grand Final at Marconi
Stadium. Crowd: 1530. Referee:
Nick Asarioti 7.

MANLY WARRINGAH:
Conradi — Verduin, Russell,
Juergens, Sestanovich —
Woodward, Jebrial, Vale —
Baumgartner, Davison, Fox.

MELITA EAGLES: Avellino —
Smith, Stead, Doyle,
Furness — Gregson, Tooma,
Settibaas — Woodward, Williams,
Dulisse.

Manly's hopes at the start of the season rested on the success of its First Grade side. However, while that side floundered, Manly's Second and Third Grade teams reached the Grand Final.

Manly's reserves were given little hope against an unbeaten Melita side and for most of the game it looked as if the Sea Eagles would go home empty handed, but Melita muffed chances and conceded two late goals to say goodbye to its hopes.

But all credit to this Manly team.

Last year the side was

fourth spot on the ladder, was given little chance of success.

However, Manly played with vigor to eliminate Sutherland before facing the outright favourite Melita and the way this game went for long periods it looked as if Melita would prevail.

Michael Tooma was in the clear midway through the second half but missed from five metres after a cross by Craig Williams. Then 10 minutes later, Williams supplied the pass which Woodward skied over the bar from four metres.

With eight minutes left, Ricky Baumgartner attempted to score his famous father's hitherto record from outside the area but it appeared to go straight to the keeper. Anthony Avellino dropped the ball and Dudley Fox, following up, scooped it into the net.

Only two minutes later, Manly celebrated against Fox's superb shot found the top corner of the net and Avellino was helpless.



• Manly, winner of the Second Grade Grand Final. Back row: G Barker, R. Baumgartner, N. Conradi, C. Woodward, J. Alaaich (coach), R. Davison, K. Russell, D. Fox. Front

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**PRESTON MAKEDONIA v
FRANKSTON PINES**

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**MELBOURNE CROATIA v
CROYDON at 1.15pm**

followed by

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